The Herald-Palladium

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LMC baseball keeps on working

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CAMPERS READY AT COOK, JUST IN CASE

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Berrien braces for COVID-19 surge

Officials expect to get hit in 10-14 days; new pavilion tower opens early

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Berrien County health officials are working day and night to prepare for an expected surge of COVID-19 cases they believe is going to hit the county in 10-14 days.

"It's like somebody threw some big stones in a pond and the ripples are ... coming to us in the next couple of weeks," Berrien County Board Chairman Mac Elliott said Thursday during the board's first virtual meeting on Zoom, which was broadcast live on YouTube.

Berrien County Health Officer Nicki Britten gave commissioners a rundown of the situation across the county, including:

■ More than 700 people are self-isolating in the county based on contact tracing from the 40 people (including one who died) who tested positive for the virus;

■ local hotels could be taken over as field hospitals or places where people can self-isolate, if need be;

■ Lakeland Medical Center in St. Joseph has opened its new pavilion early to increase hospital capacity;

■ local health care workers are still trying to find enough personal protective equipment they expect will be needed in the coming weeks;

■ supplies are limited nationally, so testing for COVID-19 is still restricted to only the sickest people who have had known contact with someone who tested positive for the virus.

"We have 39 confirmed cases, but we know that the confirmed cases are really only a reflection of our testing strategy," Britten said. "... We know that there are many, many more out there in the community who just haven't been reported."

She said health care workers are in daily telephone contact with the more than 700 people who are self isolating for 14 days.

"Our staff is definitely hard at work doing that contact tracing, trying to make sure isolation and quarantine of people who have exposure or presumed exposure with some of these confirmed cases," she said.

She said the Berrien County Health Department is coordinating with local hospital emergency room staff who see patients suspected of having COVID-19, but don't fit the criteria from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control to be tested. She said those people are also being asked to self isolate for 14 days.

"Our main goal ... is

See **SURGE**, page A2

No birthday party, no problem

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

From left, Taisjia Shidler, Mackenzie Breinling and Shidler's mother, Angela Luongo, watch as Lincoln Township police, fire and ambulance vehicles drive past Shidler's Stevensville home with sirens Thursday in celebration of her upcoming 10th birthday.

Police, fire departments holding birthday parades amid stay-at-home order

By TONY WITTKOWSKI and LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writers

STEVENSVILLE — Lincoln Township's fire and police departments, plus others around the region, are working to bring cheer to children who are celebrating their birthdays during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Referred to as a lights and sirens parade, Lincoln Township's two public safety departments are taking requests to drive by households with a handful of fire trucks and police cruisers with the lights and sirens blaring.

"It was cool," said Taisjia Shidler, who turns 10 next week, after the parade went past her house in the township Thursday.

Lincoln Township fire trucks, police and ambulance drive past Taisjia Shidler's Stevensville home Thursday in celebration of her upcoming 10th birthday. The township's police and fire departments are driving past area children's homes on their birthday during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her mother, Angela Luongo, said Taisjia and the children with her were jumping up and down while waving as the vehicles went past.

The departments are scheduling the parades at a minimum two days in advance and are doing so for children up to the age of 12. Police Chief Gary Soper said that may change based on the departments' call volume.

"We thought it would have an uplifting experience for the kids," he said in reference to the trying times when unemployment has soared and schools have closed. "We were hoping to bring some positivity to a negative situation."

The parades are taking place between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Soper said the designated time frame was chosen so the parade would

See **BIRTHDAYS**, page A10

Learning on the fly

Area administrators adapt to COVID-19 school closures

By HP STAFF

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer ordered Thursday that all K-12 buildings be closed for the rest of the year, but that doesn't mean summer vacation has started early.

Bridgman Superintendent Shane Peters said students still need to show progress before they can advance to the next grade level.

"We as big people need to do everything we can to make sure our 12th-graders graduate ... and our students advance to the next grade level," he said. "It doesn't mean they get a free walk in the park."

The executive order Whitmer signed Thursday directs school districts to come up with plans, which then need to be approved by the applicable intermediate school districts.

"Those kids who were on track to graduate prior to March 12, we're not going to mess them up if they make progress in their remote learning during the closure," he said. "Kids who were on track to graduate but then decide not to do anything (during the closure), then

See **ADAPT**, page A10

Don Campbell / HP staff

An empty swing and playground are pictured Thursday at Brown Elementary School in St. Joseph. By order of the governor, in-person K-12 classes have been cancelled for the remainder of the school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Michigan ends in-person school year for K-12 students due to coronavirus

By JOHN WISELY
Detroit Free Press

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said Thursday that Michigan's 1.5 million public school students will not return to their classrooms this school year because of the coronavirus outbreak unless restrictions are lifted.

"My number one priority right now is protecting Michigan families from the spread of COVID-19. For the sake of our students, their families, and the more than 100,000 teachers and staff in our state, I have made the difficult decision to close our school facilities for the remainder of the school year," Whitmer said in a statement. "As a parent, I understand the challenge closing schools creates for parents and guardians across the state, which is why we are setting guidelines for schools to continue remote learning and ensuring parents have resources to continue their children's education from the safety of their homes."

Michigan joins a growing list of states to cancel classroom instruction for the rest of the year including Alabama, Arizona, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Vermont and Virginia.

Other states have held off canceling the rest of the year but instead have extended their shutdowns. Ohio schools will remain closed through at least May 1. North Carolina schools are closed until at least May 15.

Whitmer hinted at the decision last week, saying in a radio interview that a return to Michigan classrooms this school year was "very unlikely."

Legislators from both parties acknowledged that the decision was a hard one, but the right one under the circumstances.

"School buildings are closed, but education will continue as schools embrace new learning formats," said Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake. "Teachers and staff have done a tremendous job providing continuous learning to students over the past couple weeks and we know that effort can continue. Teachers and families partnering together will provide Michigan students with distance learning opportunities for the balance of the school year."

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, D-Flint, said in a statement that he was confident educators could rise to the challenge.

"Shifting lessons from face-to-face instruction to home learning is a necessary step to keep Michiganders as safe as possible and slow the spread of the coronavirus pandemic," Ananich said. "Teachers are true pros when it comes to being flexible and adapting to whatever each day brings, and I have every confidence that they

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Tomorrow's Weather

High 45 Low 35

6 50645 49085 0

States get only a fraction of requested supplies from strategic stockpile

By EMILY KOPP
CQ-Roll Call (TNS)

WASHINGTON — Since the novel coronavirus was first detected in the District of Columbia about a month ago, the city has requested more than 1 million N95 masks from the national stockpile. The number of these masks the city has received: 5,520.

States are receiving just a fraction of the supplies they need from the Strategic National Stockpile, according to internal Federal Emergency Management Agency data for five states and the District of Columbia made public for the first time Thursday.

Less than 10 percent of the N95 masks requested by the states – Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, as well as the District of Columbia – have been distributed by the stockpile, according to the Trump administration's internal data. The states also requested 194 million pairs of gloves, but received less than 1 percent of that amount.

The documents were released as part of an investigation by the House Oversight and Reform Committee. FEMA and the Department of Health and Human Services briefed committee members on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The figures give the first look into the shape of the stockpile since HHS stopped releasing numbers on its supply of N95s and other essential equipment in mid-March.

The Trump administration officials acknowledged to the committee that its analysis pointed to a looming shortage in mid-January, weeks before nurses began raising the alarm about locked-up supplies and homemade masks and gowns on social media. Asked by the committee when more supplies would come into the stockpile, the agencies did not give a specific timeline.

The numbers come as nurses across the country express fear about treating patients with respiratory illness without the sort of equipment they need to limit their exposure to the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. Hospitals have rationed supplies in a way that puts health care providers in danger and retaliated against nurses who raised concerns, according to nurses unions.

The exposure of nurses and physicians to the new coronavirus could lead to the spread of COVID-19 in hospitals, unions and epidemiologists say.

"We don't have an unlimited supply of health care professionals," said Denise Duncan, a nurse and the president of United Nurses Associations of California.

A nurse working at Howard University Hospital died of COVID-19 late last week, according to the District of Columbia Nurses Association.

"Our country is not meeting our obligation" to health care workers, said Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., on a call with reporters Wednesday. He said nurses and other health care providers are "fighting a war."

The stockpile had 13 million N95 masks, also referred to as "respirators," before U.S. cases of COVID-19 began climbing. HHS has estimated 3.5 billion N95s would be needed over the course of a year in a national viral outbreak.

LOTTERIES

Thursday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
AH-4D-5D-7S-10S
Midday Daily 3
7-4-9
Midday Daily 4
1-4-8-1
Daily 3
4-5-2
Daily 4
4-3-5-5
Fantasy 5
20-27-28-33-35
Estimated jackpot
$110,000

Keno
06-07-08-11-12-13-16-22-23-25-31-42-43-45-50-51-53-54-64-66-76-77
Mega Millions jackpot
$121 million
Powerball jackpot
$180 million

Indiana
Quick Draw Midday
05-18-19-22-25-39-41-43-52-53-54-55-56-59-67-68-71-73-77-80,
BE: 54
Daily Three-Midday
2-8-7, SB: 8
Daily Four-Midday
5-8-1-6, SB: 8

Illinois
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
07-15-16-35-41
Pick Three-Midday
5-0-2, Fireball: 0
Pick Four-Midday
5-4-2-5, Fireball: 5

– The Associated Press

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localnews@TheHP.com

Features
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focus@TheHP.com

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SCHOOLS

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will keep doing their best to make this unique situation work for Michigan's students."

House Democratic Leader Christine Greig, D-Farmington Hills, applauded the decision.

"Protecting our students and educators is critically important during this public health crisis and Governor Whitmer made the right call," she said.

Local educators have been waiting for guidance from Lansing.

"Keeping kids out of crowded classrooms during this pandemic keeps them safe, and, while that decision creates significant challenges for us as educators, it's unquestionably the right thing to do," said Walled Lake Consolidated Schools Superintendent Kenneth Gutman on behalf of superintendents in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. "Educators have already stepped up to provide essential academic and emotional support to our students and our focus will remain on helping them through this ongoing crisis and successfully welcoming them back to their classrooms in the fall."

Most local educators had anticipated the closure.

"Since the initial shutdown, Birmingham Public Schools educators have been working around the clock to create a framework that furthers learning for the remainder of the year, irrespective of any guidance from the State of Michigan," Superintendent Mark Dziatczak said. "We are committed to meeting the social, emotional and academic needs of our students during this important time in their development given this extraordinary public health emergency."

Most local school districts had already said they would defer to health experts on whether or not to return. But some educators had urged Whitmer to keep school buildings closed.

"Declare schools closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year," Detroit schools Superintendent Nikolai Vitti wrote in an open letter March 23. "Require all districts to develop an online learning platform within a reasonable amount of time. This can include distributing laptops with internet access to families."

The closure places increased pressure on schools to continue learning, albeit without returning to a classroom.

Under Whitmer's order, school districts must submit plans to continue learning remotely, either online or through other means. Regional education groups, known as intermediate school districts, must approve the plans.

"Every district's plan will be different and will reflect what's best and feasible for their community," Whitmer said. "A plan can include learning by any number of modes of instruction delivery, including a hybrid approach. However they are designed, districts must ensure their plans are appropriate, equitable and accessible for students and families."

The order also reignites a debate about unequal access to online learning. Wealthier districts have been using online learning already, even distributing low-priced laptop computers and portable WiFi connections to families that don't have those things at home. Many poorer districts, including some rural districts where the student population is spread out over vast areas, have said they will have a harder time launching an online learning system.

Vitti Tweeted Wednesday that the district was "actively working with the business community to provide DPSCD families with a tablet and internet access to fight through the digital divide."

The online instruction that already has been delivered has been controversial as well with questions about whether that time can be counted toward the annual required hours of learning. Private schools announced that they would count the online instructional time but public schools were bound by a Michigan Department of Education ruling March 20 that online learning time would not count.

"There is no mechanism to earn instructional time during a period of mandated school closure," Deputy State Superintendent Venessa Keesler wrote in a memo. "However, schools can and are encouraged to offer supplemental learning opportunities to students using distance learning methods as they see fit."

That decision drew sharp condemnation from some educators.

"Seat time is an outmoded accountability method. Demonstration of learning, whether in person or virtually, is more consistent with 21st Century life," said Gerald Hill, superintendent of West Bloomfield Schools, one of the first districts in the state to launch an online learning portal.

SURGE

From page A1

to reduce the spread of COVID-19," Britten said. "We're trying to make sure that we're doing what we can to ensure that every infection that happens produces as few other infections as possible. We want every infection to end with that person and have that person not spread it further."

Health Department Communications Manager Gillian Conrad said after the meeting that most county residents appear to be taking the governor's order to stay home seriously. She said that when contact tracing started on March 20 with the first two positive cases, each infected person reported being in contact with 14 to 15 other people the previous four days.

Now, she said people who receive positive results report only being in contact with two to three people over the previous few days.

"People are staying at home," Conrad said. "This is how we break the chain of transmission. This is why isolation and quarantine is so important."

Two ICU units

When contacted by phone after the meeting, Dr. Loren Hamel, president of Spectrum Health Lakeland, said contractors and staff have been working around the clock to accelerate by three weeks the opening of the five-floor, 260,000-square-foot Lakeland Medical Center Pavilion at Lakeland Medical Center in St. Joseph.

"We had every fire marshal, I'm told, in the state helping us ensure that we were opening it safely" he said. "We said we're in a crisis in health care. We need this facility urgently. And the state fire marshals were very responsive."

Hamel said that gives the medical center two intensive care units, because the old one will not be closed until after the pandemic is over. He said medical center's number of ICU beds has increased from 14 to 34 with the addition of the second ICU unit. In addition, he said other areas of the hospital can be turned into ICU rooms. When it's all done, he said the hospital could have capacity for 70 ICU beds, if needed.

But that still may not be enough.

"We've modeled out how this is going to hit our community and our state," he said. "(This pandemic) is going to build and build and build in our country. ... That's what's happening in New York. That's what's happening on the other side of the state."

He said Berrien County may not be hit as hard as the bigger cities because people don't live as close together. The population density in Detroit is almost 5,000 people per square mile. In Berrien County, the population density is about 200 people per square mile.

"There's some evidence that population density may be a mitigating factor in more rural counties, but there's no promise," he said.

He said an advantage to having two ICU units is that they can isolate COVID-19 patients in one unit. But as the surge hits, he said they may not be able to continue keeping COVID-19 patients separate from other patients.

Hamel said the opening of the pavilion early also created more command center space so they can better prepare for the expected surge.

"It's still challenging to get supplies," he said. "It's still challenging to get staff. And those are challenges that all health care systems are facing."

Social distancing

Hamel said the best way to slow the spread of the virus is for residents to be diligent in their social distancing. He said that will save more lives than any preparation the health care system can make.

The problem, he said, is that people with COVID-19 are contagious several days before they get sick. And it is estimated that 25 percent of people who get COVID-19 never develop any symptoms.

"All it takes to spread the disease is a 14-year-old asymptomatic granddaughter giving her grandmother a hug," he said.

Hamel said the health care system is doing everything it can to prepare for the expected surge.

"But those efforts, however important they are, are less important than everybody everywhere maintaining social distance. Everybody, everywhere keeping their hands incredibly clean and not touching their face after they've been out and about," he said. "What will prevent this virus from taking the lives of folks in Berrien County has more to do with people's diligence with their caution about social distancing and hand washing than anything else we can do."

Hamel said it is predicted that the state should be starting to recover sometime during the summer.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

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hp LOCAL & STATE

Camp Cook

Plant ready if critical employees can't go home

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BRIDGMAN — Most people don't imagine camping in the shadow of a nuclear power plant, but that's what some workers at Cook Nuclear Plant are preparing to do.

"Being part of the nuclear industry, we have to be prepared for everything," plant spokesman Bill Downey said. "We have to protect the plant and keep the power running. To do that, we've got to have some critical employees that are here and available in a moments notice."

Cook employees with access to travel trailers have toted them over to the parking lot at the plant in case the need should arise for them to be sequestered in place on site during the coronavirus pandemic.

"We're ready should things get bad. If we lose employees or if we get surrounded and the governor comes down that we need to protect the plant," Downey said. "We have pretty high bar guidelines to follow."

Nuclear plants have pandemic plans in addition to their natural disaster plans.

"We go through apocalyptic scenarios all the time in partnership with the state and the county," Downey said. "So when this one came along, and we started planning on where to house critical employees, people started asking if they could bring campers, and we said, 'sure' and 'how many people have them and would want to bring them?'"

As it turned out, 80 travel trailers rolled into the plant, they were moved into position, and hooked up to water and power.

"We're even setting up a dumping station and ways to feed everyone," Downey said. "It's like a mini campground, but no one is living in them yet."

He said the plant has gone overboard with the full expectation they will never need it.

The alternative is having the critical employees stay in the office part of the plant on cots.

Photo provided / Bill Downey / Cook Nuclear Plant

About 80 campers are ready in case critical Cook Nuclear Plant workers have to shelter at the plant.

"They would much rather stay in the comfort of their own camper," Downey said.

Critical employees include a certain number of operators, security personnel, engineers, chemistry technicians, and radiation protection technicians.

"We also need a certain number of maintenance people," Downey said. "If things break or if we need to make adjustments, they have to be here."

He said some of the plant's office staff, including him, have been working from home to cut down on the number of people gathering in one place.

The plant is also making other pandemic emergency plans too, as well preparing for its annual extended test of its sirens this Saturday.

"This is just the most visible one, and it's one everyone can rally around," Downey said. "We hope we don't have to use it."

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

FOOD GIVEAWAY

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

TOP: Volunteers and staff with the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency distribute food to hundreds of families Thursday morning during a family food distribution drive-thru held in Benton Harbor in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A second distribution is scheduled for April 9 at the agency's warehouse located at 331 Miller St., in Benton Harbor.

LEFT: Amy Deloria waves to a family as she helps distribute food Thursday during a family food distribution drive-thru held by the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency in Benton Harbor.

IN BRIEF

Van Buren County reports first COVID-19 death

Each county in Southwest Michigan has now experienced a death due to COVID-19.

Van Buren County reported its first death Thursday, according to the department's online site. No details about the case were provided, and health officials there did not return phone calls.

The county has 12 positive cases, including the death, up from 10 reported Wednesday.

Berrien County reported its first death Monday. It now has 40 positive cases, including the death, up from 38 cases reported Wednesday.

Sixteen of those 40 cases have fully recovered, according to the Berrien County Health Department.

Cass County reported its first death Tuesday.

The number of positive cases in Cass remains at six cases, including the death.

The state and county health departments update the number of positive COVID-19 cases at 3 p.m. each day. For state numbers, visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Local numbers and information, can be found at www.bchdmi.org and www.vbcassdhd.org/covid-19.

SHOUT announces Theatre Series lineup

SOUTH HAVEN — SHOUT for South Haven has announced the lineup for its third South Haven Theatre Series.

This year's series includes:

■ "An Evening with Teddy Roosevelt" with Joe Wiegand: 7:30 p.m. May 15 in South Haven High School's Listiak Auditorium, 600 Elkenburg St.

■ "Sojourner Truth: The Legacy Lives On" with Sandra Jones: 7:30 p.m. June 27 at South Haven First United Methodist Church, 429 Michigan Ave.

■ "Frida ... A Self Portrait" with Vanessa Severo: 5 p.m. July 12 at the South Haven Center for the Arts, 600 Phoenix St.

■ "Warm Cheese" with Teresa Thome: 7:30 p.m. Aug. 22 at South Haven First United Methodist Church.

■ "Grounded" with Gwendolyn Whiteside: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26 and 2 p.m. Sept. 27 at South Haven First United Methodist Church.

For more information, visit shoutforsouthhaven.org.

Cook to test sirens longer on Saturday

By HP STAFF

BRIDGMAN — Those living within 10 miles of Cook Nuclear Plant are used to hearing the warning siren tests the first Saturday of each month at 1 p.m.

But this Saturday the sirens will sound for a full three minutes instead of just one. The longer tests are done every April to confirm they will work for a longer period.

In the event of a real emergency, the 70 omni-directional electronic sirens would sound for three to five minutes and residents should tune to local radio or television stations for more information.

"The times we're living in right now are a perfect example of why our annual Emergency Calendar and these siren tests are so important for our community," said Cook spokesman Bill Downey in a news release. "It lets residents and visitors know there is a solid system in place that will alert and inform them about how to stay safe in an emergency."

For more about siren testing, visit www.cookinfo.com or call 800-548-2555.

To note a problem with a siren near your home, call the Berrien County Emergency Management Office at 983-7111, Ext. 4915.

SOUTH HAVEN SCHOOLS

Photos provided

South Haven History Club members, from left, Garrett Smith, Avery Daugherty and Jessica Ford are shown earlier this year gathering research for their entries for the Michigan History Day competition.

History Club members will get to compete at state after all

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN — As South Haven History Club members saw their classmates' state competitions canceled one by one this spring due to the coronavirus outbreak, they began to wonder whether their contest, too, would be curtailed.

It appears, however, club members will be spared the bad news, as organizers of the annual Michigan History Day have come up with plan B.

Instead of traveling all the way to Saginaw Valley State University on April 8, students will now show judges their performances, documentaries and exhibits online, hoping to secure a berth in the national competition in June.

"In general, the kids are over the moon that organizers thought outside of the box and found a way to allow the competition to go on, even if it means that active presentation of their projects is limited," said Kameron Daugherty, parent of three children who all qualified for the state competition.

"I am so excited for them," Daugherty said. "Two of my kids will be submitting group documentaries. My oldest daughter Avery, along with her partner, Jessee Ford, is submitting a documentary on the first female U.S. Air Force Thunderbird pilot, Nicole Malachowski." He added that youngest daughter Lauryn, along with her partner Tessa Hosier, will submit a documentary on the first female cooking show host, Julia Child. His son Myles will present an exhibit on the Wright Brothers, with partner Nic Sheppard.

A total of 13 History Club members from South Haven High School and Baseline Middle School advanced to the state level of the National History Day contest, marking the 10th year in a row that students from South Haven have done so.

With schools closed in an effort to halt the spread of coronavirus, History Club coach Julie Sheppard said she is glad the state contest will still continue.

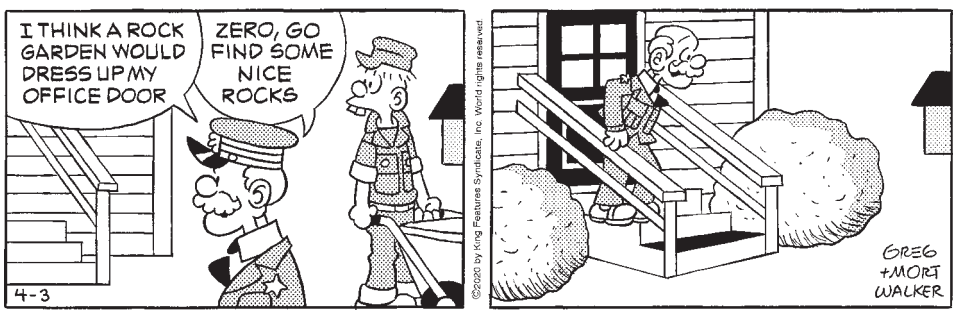
"It's (preparing for the state competition) keeping the students moving and they are all working hard to get ready for the next level," Sheppard said. "They really needed this. Some of the kiddos are involved in the other sports and competitions that got canceled."

South Haven History Club members advanced to the state competition after qualifying to do so at the regional competition at Western Michigan University earlier in March.

The other students who qualified from South Haven are: Addison Dekoning, London Piersein, Charlotte Knox, Erin Bos, Tabitha Newberry, Garrett Smith and Kendra Burrows.

South Haven History Club members Lauryn Daugherty, left, and Tessa Hosier are shown earlier this year gathering research for their documentary about retired U.S. Air Force pilot Nicole Malachowski, who became the first female pilot to fly as part of the Air Force's elite Thunderbirds demonstration squadron. The two students are seventh graders at Baseline Middle School.

BEETLE BAILEY


I THINK A ROCK GARDEN WOULD DRESS UP MY OFFICE DOOR
ZERO, GO FIND SOME NICE ROCKS
4-3
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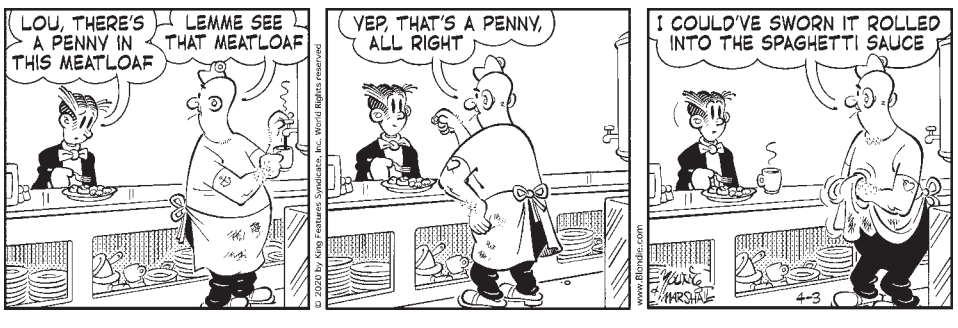
GREG + MORT WALKER

BLONDIE


LOU, THERE'S A PENNY IN THIS MEATLOAF
LEMME SEE THAT MEATLOAF
YEP, THAT'S A PENNY, ALL RIGHT
I COULD'VE SWORN IT ROLLED INTO THE SPAGHETTI SAUCE
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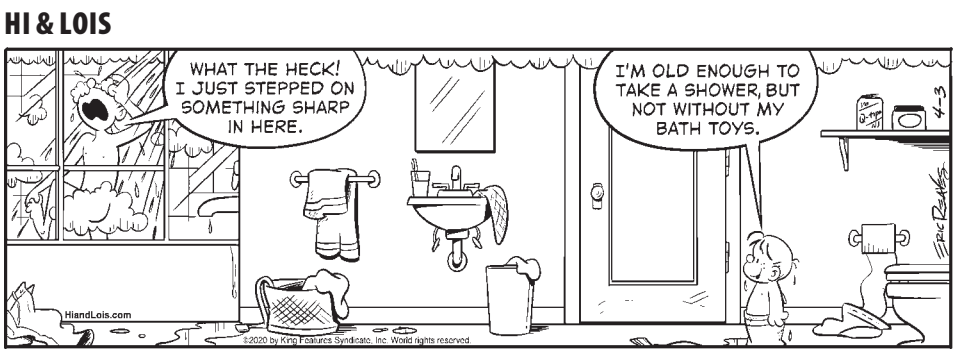
www.Blondie.com
4-3

HI & LOIS


WHAT THE HECK! I JUST STEPPED ON SOMETHING SHARP IN HERE.
I'M OLD ENOUGH TO TAKE A SHOWER, BUT NOT WITHOUT MY BATH TOYS.
4-3
HiandLois.com
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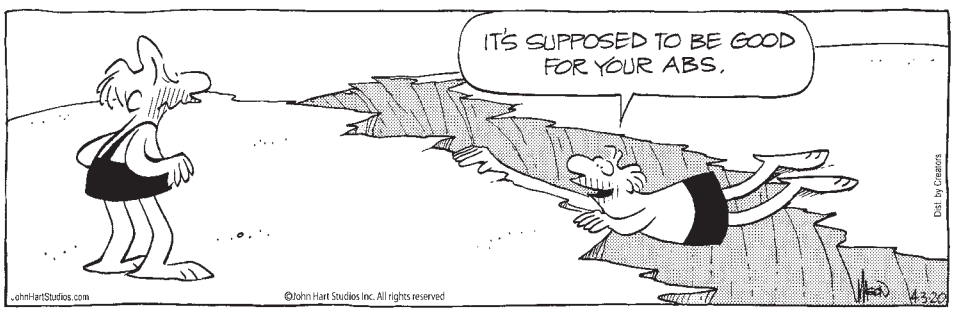
BC


IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD FOR YOUR ABS.
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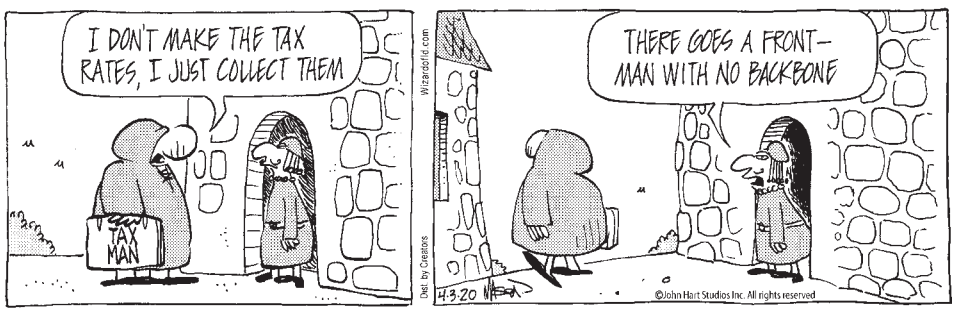
WIZARD OF ID


I DON'T MAKE THE TAX RATES, I JUST COLLECT THEM
TAX MAN
THERE GOES A FRONT-MAN WITH NO BACKBONE
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Wizardofid.com
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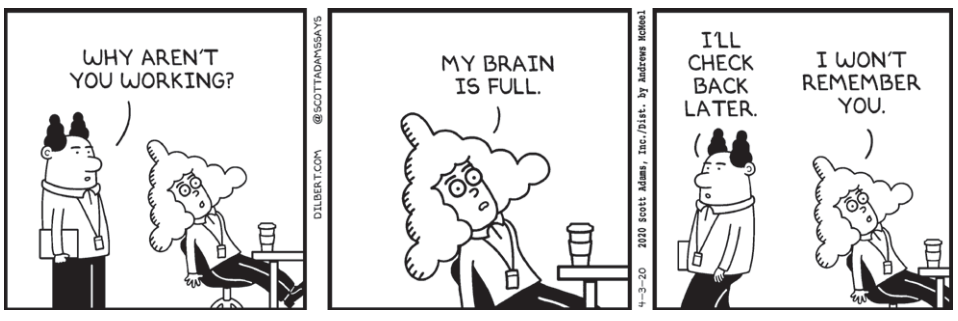
DILBERT


WHY AREN'T YOU WORKING?
MY BRAIN IS FULL.
I'LL CHECK BACK LATER.
I WON'T REMEMBER YOU.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMS565
4-3-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD

I DREAMED YOU WERE A ROBOT. WEIRD, HUH?
WHAT IF I AM?
JON?
I DREAMED YOU WERE A COFFEE MAKER!
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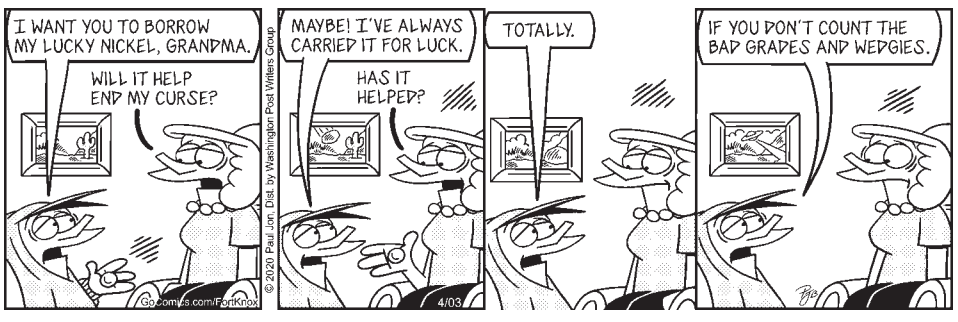
JIM DAVIS 4-3

FORT KNOX


I WANT YOU TO BORROW MY LUCKY NICKEL, GRANDMA.
WILL IT HELP END MY CURSE?
MAYBE! I'VE ALWAYS CARRIED IT FOR LUCK.
HAS IT HELPED?
TOTALLY.
IF YOU DON'T COUNT THE BAD GRADES AND WEDGIES.
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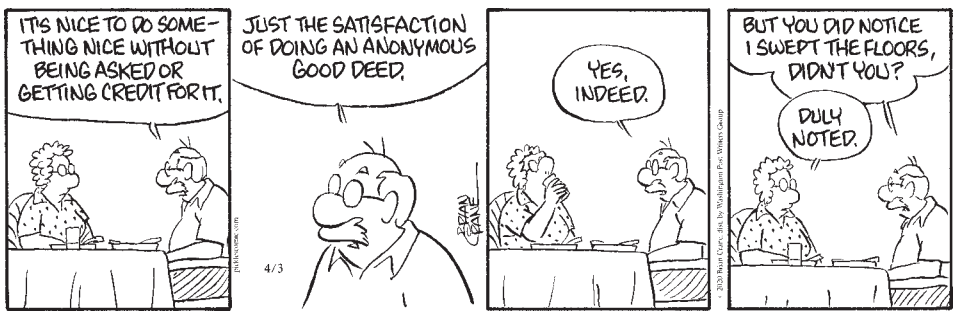
4/03

PICKLES


IT'S NICE TO DO SOMETHING NICE WITHOUT BEING ASKED OR GETTING CREDIT FOR IT.
JUST THE SATISFACTION OF DOING AN ANONYMOUS GOOD DEED.
YES, INDEED.
BUT YOU DID NOTICE I SWEPT THE FLOORS, DIDN'T YOU?
DULY NOTED.
4/3
BRIAN CRANE
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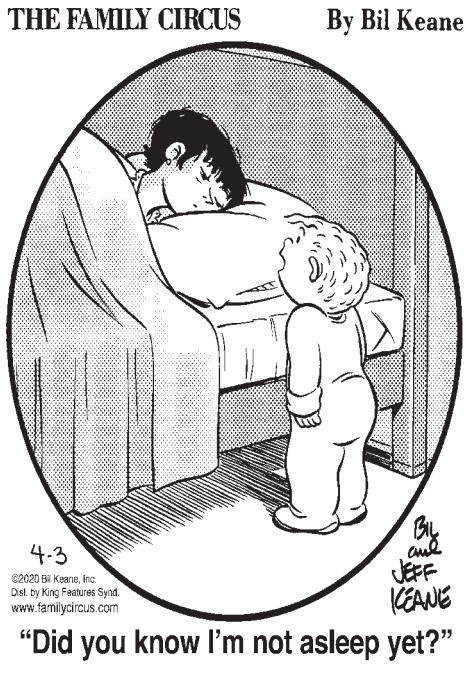
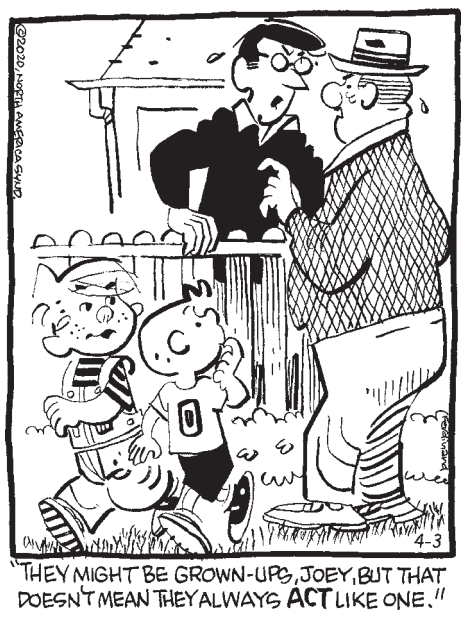
pricklycity.com

FAMILY CIRCUS



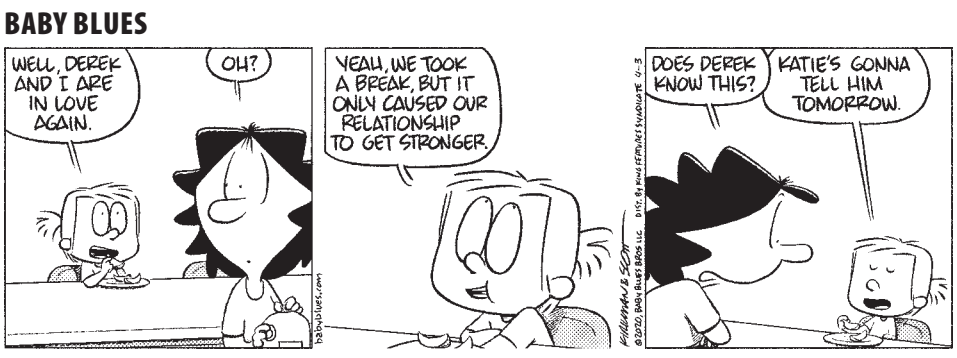
"Did you know I'm not asleep yet?"

DENNIS THE MENACE



"THEY MIGHT BE GROWN-UPS, JOEY, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY ALWAYS ACT LIKE ONE."

BABY BLUES


WELL, DEREK AND I ARE IN LOVE AGAIN.
OH?
YEAH, WE TOOK A BREAK, BUT IT ONLY CAUSED OUR RELATIONSHIP TO GET STRONGER.
DOES DEREK KNOW THIS?
KATIE'S GONNA TELL HIM TOMORROW.
babyblues.com
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CURTIS

DIANE, THE JOB YOU'RE DOING HOME-SCHOOLING THE BOYS IS INCREDIBLE!
HERE, LET ME GIVE YOU A MASSAGE
THANKS
IT WAS ROUGH AT FIRST, BUT CURTIS IS SHOWING ME THE SAME RESPECT HE SHOWS HIS TEACHER
OOH, SORRY TO HEAR THAT
4-3
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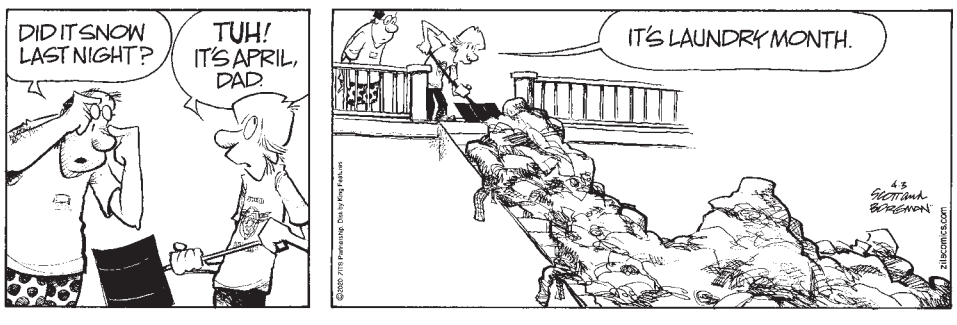
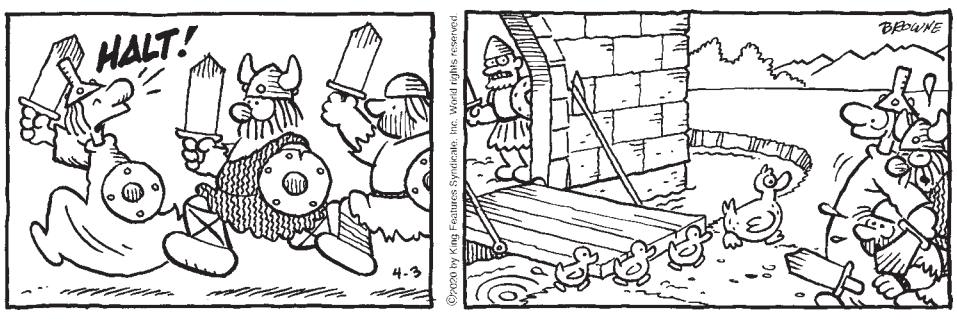
BWUNSTLER

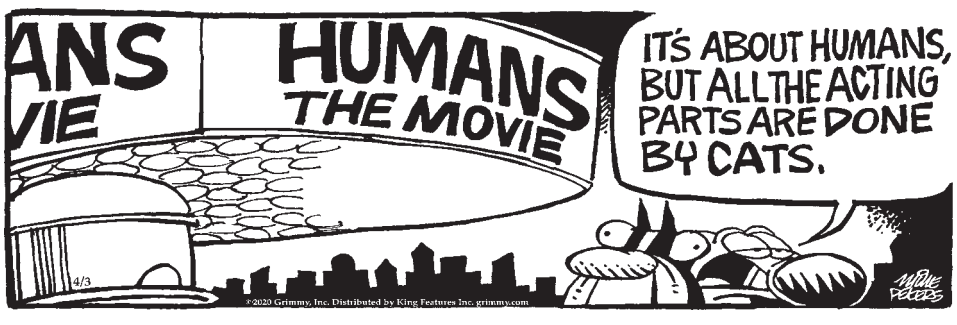
ZITS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM


HUMANS THE MOVIE
IT'S ABOUT HUMANS, BUT ALL THE ACTING PARTS ARE DONE BY CATS.
4/3
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MAINE PEEPS

MUTTS

SALLY FORTH

YOU'RE... YOU'RE SELMA! WHICH MEANS...
HEY, SALLY!
KEEFE
KARL?! MIKE?! I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! YOU HATED ME WHEN I WAS BRIEFLY YOUR MARKETING DIRECTOR AT THE OLD OFFICE! AND I COULDN'T STAND YOU! DO YOU EVEN REMEMBER HOW IMPOSSIBLE IT WAS WORKING TOGETHER?!
4-3
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FLASHBACK...
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO GET THROUGH TO YOU PEOPLE?!?
WELL, I REMEMBER THINGS BETTER WHEN THEY'RE PUT TO MUSIC.

The Herald-Palladium CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Desk: 1-855-317-4292
Hours: Monday - Friday 8am-4pm EST
Saturday & Sunday 8am-11am EST

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Heat, central air, water & WIFI included. New appliances. Partly furnished.
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LEGALS

LEGALS

Hagar Township

Annual Meeting and Public Budget Hearing Notice

April 13, 2020

The Hagar Township Board has rescheduled the Annual Meeting and Public Budget Hearing for the Township 2020/2021 Budget for April 13, 2020 at 6pm. This meeting will be held electronically.

Instructions to access this electronic meeting online, using your computer or smartphone's audio/microphone or camera:

Please visit https://us04web.zoom.us/j/976608045

Meeting ID: 976 608 045

Instructions to access electronic meeting by landline or smartphone:

Residents and interested individuals can join the electronic meeting from their homes by calling:

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

Listen to the prompts through the phone and when asked, enter Meeting ID: 976 608 045 #
The phone system will ask for a participant ID number, press #

The General Appropriations Resolution will be presented which will establish the property tax millage rate to support the Budget. Additionally, the Hagar Township Fire Truck Millage and Headlee Millage Rollback will be discussed. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection. Please call the township hall at 269-849-0455 to request a physical copy of the budget, or hagarclerk@gmail.com to request a digital copy.

The Township does comply with the Americans with Disability Act and will provide accommodations for special needs as requested. Please contact the Township Clerk with any special needs requests at least 5 days prior to the meeting.

Sarah Rodriguez,

Hagar Township Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Immediate Openings for people comfortable working with tools. Training provided. $15.00/hr starting wage. Valid drivers license and some paid travel required. Career Opportunities, Grow with the company
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Stevensville, MI

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$14/Hour - Helpers
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Visit https://vanair.com/careers
or email resume to: hr@vanair.com

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cheap!!
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$3.00 per Roll
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F1B Golden doodles (3 boys, 1 girl).
Standard poodles (3 girls, 1 boy)
All have had first vaccination, health check and wormed. They are ready to go home. $800. call or text 269-944-1294 (Number updated) for an appointment to come meet them and pick your new family member.

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Many Amenities
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MAKE SOME MONEY

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

Pick up the pace and make things happen this year. Putting more energy into the things that bring you the most joy will have a positive impact on your attitude and your life. Get in touch with others and make yourself available. This can be a year of sharing and spreading love.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Focus on whom you know and how best to utilize your connections. Discuss your intentions and listen to suggestions. Romance is favored, and positive change is within reach.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take a step back and a deep breath, and consider what's worth fighting for and what isn't. Your time and energy will be better spent pursuing romance or physical improvements.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Listen and learn. What you offer others will be reciprocated. Visiting someone who has influenced your life will be insightful. Don't make a premature change.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Keep your cash and possessions tucked away someplace safe. The best results will come from nurturing a relationship that offers equality and brings you joy. Make love and romance priorities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Emotions will surface if you try to please everyone. Take a step back and satisfy yourself. Aim for personal growth instead of trying to change others. You are overdue for a break.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Don't be disheartened if someone lets you down. It's essential to stay focused on what's important to you and to strive for personal perfection. A change is encouraged.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) A personal adjustment will help you recognize your talents and value. Distance yourself from people who don't appreciate you or who take advantage of you. Put yourself first.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Don't let uncertainty set in because someone gives you a hard time. Follow your heart and make smart choices that will bring you the results you are striving for.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Plan your schedule carefully and your actions wisely. Refrain from making comments or sharing opinions that may not be favored by others. Protect your reputation, personal information and possessions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A change will lift your spirits. Plan to do something special with a loved one. Make a promise that will have a positive influence on your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Get back to basics. You've been running yourself ragged trying to do too much for too many. Don't get into an emotional or financial bind by taking on, or spending, too much.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Traveling, spending time with people who bring out the best in you or helping a cause you believe in will be enlightening. A romantic gesture will lift your spirits.

Responding to employment ads that contain a Herald-Palladium box #

No telephone calls please! We will not reveal the name of the box holder.
(A) Reply with your sealed letter Addressed as follows:

Box (# that appears in ad)
c/o the Herald-Palladium
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then: B) attach a note listing which firms are NOT to receive your letter; and (C) send every thing in ANOTHER ENVELOPE addressed as follows:

The Herald-Palladium
Classified Department
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If the advertiser is among the names you don't want to contact, we will destroy your sealed letter.

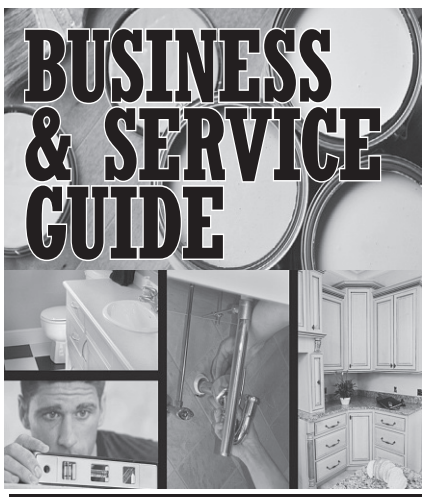
E-Mail Responses
You may also reply to ads with Herald-Palladium box numbers by e-mail. Do not attach your resume rather type it or copy & paste it directly into your e-mail program. Send your e-mail to: jobs@heraldpalladium.com

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then begin your e-mail with any company(s) where you do not wish to apply. Then include the Herald-Palladium box address as shown above.

Employment Advertisers Who Wish to Remain Anonymous
To protect our readers, Herald-Palladium policy requires that all companies list their names when placing ads in our publication. Employment advertisers who wish to remain anonymous must rent Herald-Palladium boxes so that we can insure our readers that they are not responding to their current employers or any other company to which they do not wish to apply.

Box Charges
Boxes are reserved for 30 days after last day of ad publication. The charge is:
$10. per box- you pick-up responses.
$15. per box - We fax all responses to you on a daily basis.
$25. per box- We mail responses to you once per week.
When readers respond to your ad via e-mail, we will forward them to you immediately if you provide us with an e-mail address or we will print and handle them in the manner that you request.

The Herald-Palladium



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hp SPORTS

Work never stops for Lake Michigan College baseball

Red Hawks aim to stay focused after canceled season

By MAXWELL HARDEN
HP Sports Writer

The coronavirus pandemic taking the world by storm has left the Lake Michigan College baseball team in a state of limbo.

LMC finished its annual Florida trip with a 7-4 record and was hoping to keep the momentum going when the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) decided to suspend spring sports before later canceling them.

"We came back from Florida and had a few practices before decisions were made," LMC coach Zak Wasserman said. "LMC did the smart thing and sent students home. It's tough because the season is over and we don't get to reflect on the effort that we put in as a team like we normally would be able to do."

The NJCAA decided not to charge student-athletes a year of eligibility, meaning sophomores participating in spring sports can return for another season if they so choose.

If the eligibility committee approves, the NJCAA is also looking into increasing the number of letters of intent for each athletic program.

LMC, like other junior colleges, is unsure how much it will be affected by the NCAA's decision not to grant students an extra year of eligibility, that puts a monkey wrench in the system since a lot of our recruiting is based on what NCAA schools do," Wasserman said prior to the NCAA's announcement.

Stay-at-home orders and social distancing guidelines have made recruiting difficult during this recruiting cycle.

"Recruiting is a trickle-down process for us," Wasserman said. "For the time being, we're waiting to see how it all plays out. Can't get out to see anybody right now. The MHSAA is currently suspended. Typically we'd be out on the road to go see some guys at practices and games."

With his team's roster scattered across the country, Wasserman and his coaching staff have been communicating as best they can with calls and texts. Wasserman realizes that at the end of the day, the onus is on the players to stay in shape amid uncertain times.

"All we can do is count to the players themselves to make sure they can stay in shape. There should still be 6-8 weeks left on the schedule right now but we're all stuck at home. This group of young men worked hard and were excited about the season. We had the makings of a special team. We hope the team is process-driven.

"For us, we're trying to find ways to get better. We hope that by the time they show up on campus again that they're still eager to improve."

Contact: mharden@thehp.com, 932-0371, @HPMaxwellHarden

BCS honors competitive cheer athletes

Four Berrien Springs, three Lake Michigan Catholic students selected

By HP STAFF

The Berrien Springs and Lake Michigan Catholic competitive cheer teams were well-represented in the Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph Conference's all-conference selections released last week.

Four Shamrocks and three Titans were named first-team all-BCS.

Berrien Springs seniors Ellie Haygood, Emily Knight, Kylee Smith and Delaney Williams made the team after leading the Shamrocks to the Division 3 state finals. LM Catholic seniors Katie Wertheimer and Chloe Simmons, and junior Alex Braley were named first-team following a Division 4 regional tournament appearance.

Buchanan seniors Annie Borst and Caitlynn Harrell made the team as did Lawrence junior Kloee Kelsey and sophomore Amber Cook.

Honorable mention honorees include Berrien Springs' Yosselyn Cervantes, Amelia Daniels, and Kirsten Krause, Parchment's Aysiah Moskalik Parchment, Kiya Tipken Parchment, and Mary VanderMark, LM Catholic's Ashley Herrera, Miah Sirk, and Grace Newman, Lawrence's Zoey Haislip, and Tamra Lucas, and Buchanan's Macy Orphandis, and Arianna Hankins.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Lutheran name incorrect in BCS story

Michigan Lutheran's Adam Rosenbaum earned honorable mention on the all-Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph Conference White Division boys basketball team. Rosenbaum's name was incorrect in a story in the weekend edition of The Herald-Palladium.

Blackhawks agree to Highmore, Lankinen contract extensions

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Blackhawks have agreed to two-year contract extensions with forward Matthew Highmore and goaltender Kevin Lankinen.

The first year of each extension is a two-way deal. Highmore's agreement has an average annual value of $725,000, and Lankinen's extension carries an average annual value of $800,000.

The Blackhawks also announced Thursday that forwards Evan Barratt and Andrei Altybarmakyan had agreed to entry-level contracts.

Wimbledon canceled due to coronavirus

LONDON (AP) — Wimbledon was canceled on Wednesday because of the coronavirus pandemic, the first time since World War II that the oldest Grand Slam tennis tournament won't be played.

Britain imposed a nationwide lockdown just over a week ago, and the All England Club announced after a two-day emergency meeting that the event is being scrapped for 2020.

COLLEGE NOTES

Rod Aydelotte / AP

West Virginia guard Kysre Gondrezick heads up court at Baylor in the first half of a game on Jan. 18.

Gondrezick earns all-conference honor

By HP STAFF

Benton Harbor graduate Kysre Gondrezick earned honorable mention all-Big 12 as a junior on the West Virginia women's basketball team.

Gondrezick led the Mountaineers in scoring with 15.3 points per game. She also averaged 3.6 rebounds and 3.2 assists, and made 34.9 percent of her 3-pointers.

West Virginia was 17-12 when the season was canceled due to coronavirus concerns, and was listed in the "next four out" on ESPN's projected NCAA tournament bracket.

Gondrezick led the Mountaineers with 19 points in a key 71-69 road win at Texas Tech on March 4, which ended up being their second-to-last game of the season.

Kyle gets big tennis victory

St. Joseph graduate Ahmeir Kyle is the No. 1 singles player for the Xavier women's tennis team.

Kyle, a junior, knocked off Old Dominion's Holly Hutchinson 6-3, 6-3 on March 7. Hutchinson was ranked No. 38 in the country at the time, giving Kyle the record for the highest-ranked opponent defeated by a Xavier player in program history.

Kyle finished the abbreviated season 7-5 in singles matches and 8-5 in doubles.

Wagner continues strong play for GVSU

Coloma graduate Morgan Wagner continued to impress as a sophomore on the Grand Valley State softball team before the season was canceled.

Wagner, who earned second-team all-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honors as a freshman, started 14 of the Lakers' 16 games. She batted .357 with a .426 on-base percentage and .966 fielding percentage at catcher, helping Grand Valley to a 13-3 record.

Mosier wraps up basketball career

Buchanan graduate and former Lake Michigan College standout Jade Mosier recently finished her senior season on the St. Mary's College women's basketball team. Mosier ranked second on the Belles in both points (10.3) and rebounds (5.7) per game. St. Mary's finished 10-16.

Ruddell a sharpshooter for Concordia

St. Joseph graduate Izak Ruddell started 14 of 25 games for the Concordia Chicago men's basketball team.

Ruddell averaged 7.0 points, 5.2 rebounds and 2.0 assists per game for the Cougars, who finished the season 8-17. Ruddell's 3-point field goal percentage of 43.3 was among the best in the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference, an NCAA Division III league.

Witkowski earns honorable mention

Michigan Lutheran graduate Emily Witkowski, a junior on the Martin Luther College women's basketball team, earned honorable mention all-Upper Midwest Athletic Conference for a second straight season.

Witkowski led the Knights in scoring with 13.3 points per game and was second in rebounds per game at 6.2.

College Notes appear periodically throughout the school year. Send your information to sports@TheHP.com.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

ML's Rugen named first-team all-state in Div. 4

By HP STAFF

Michigan Lutheran girls basketball standout Mara Rugen's season may have been cut short due to the coronavirus pandemic, but that doesn't mean her exploits went unnoticed by opposing coaches and players.

The senior forward was named to the Associated Press' Division 4 all-state first team after averaging 16.6 points, 4.7 steals, 3.1 rebounds, and 2.2 assists.

"She's an outstanding two-way player," Lutheran coach Ron Briney said. "She's the point of our defense in both the full-court and the half-court. She applies great pressure on the ball and turns steals on defense into easy baskets on offense.

"She can make shots out on the perimeter and has a nice mid-range game."

Rugen led the Titans to a 22-1 record and a regional final berth before the Michigan High School Athletic Association suspended play because of coronavirus concerns.

Brandywine's Zakiyyah Abdullah earned second-team honors in Division 3. Abdullah averaged 14.2 points per game and led the Bobcats to a 22-2 record and a district title.

Niles' Alycia Patterson earned honorable mention in Division 2. She averaged 18.3 points per game and finished as the Vikings' all-time leading scorer. Honorable mention picks in Division 3 included Decatur's Regan Rose and Bloomingdale's Kallie Harrison.

Don Campbell / HP staff

Michigan Lutheran's Mara Rugen puts up a shot during the first half of a game against Benton Harbor on Feb. 25.

Ed Farmer, White Sox broadcaster, pitcher, dies at 70

By ANDREW SELIGMAN
Associated Press

Ed Farmer, an All-Star reliever who spent nearly three decades as a radio broadcaster for the Chicago White Sox, has died. He was 70.

The White Sox said he died Wednesday night in Los Angeles following complications from an illness.

A native of Evergreen Park, Illinois, and a graduate of St. Rita High on Chicago's South Side, Farmer was 30-43 with a 4.30 ERA and 75 saves while pitching for eight teams over 11 seasons.

FARMER

He was an All-Star for the White Sox in 1980, when he saved 30 games – then a club record.

"He called no-hitters, perfect games and of course, a World Series championship," White Sox chairman Jerry Reinsdorf said in a statement Thursday. "His experience as a major league All-Star pitcher, his wry sense of clubhouse humor, his love of baseball and his passion for the White Sox combined to make White Sox radio broadcasts the sound of summer for millions of fans. Ed grew up a Sox fan on the south side of Chicago and his allegiance showed every single night on the radio as he welcomed his 'friends' to the broadcast."

Farmer joined Chicago's radio booth on a part-time basis in 1991 and became a full-time analyst in 1992 alongside play-by-play announcer John Rooney. He assumed play-by-play duties in 2006 and completed his 29th season in 2019. Farmer called perfect games by Mark Buehrle against Tampa Bay in 2009 and Phillip Humber at Seattle in 2012 as well as Hall of Famer Jim Thome's 500th homer.

"My heart is broken, but my mind is at peace knowing my dear friend is no longer suffering," said former major league outfielder Darrin Jackson, Farmer's broadcast partner since 2009. "Ed was a competitor who also was everyone's best friend. I saw first-hand how hard Ed fought each and every day and season after season to keep himself healthy and prepared to broadcast White Sox baseball."

Farmer became an advocate for organ donation after a kidney transplant in 1991. Farmer is survived by wife Barbara and daughter Shanda.

PRIME TIME TV

FRIDAY EVENING APR. 3

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	Shark Tank Reinventing the house slipper.		:01 Pandemic: What You Need to Know		20/20 CC	
CBS 2 3 22	Ent. Tonight	MacGyver (N) CC		Hawaii Five-0 "Aloha" CC		Blue Bloods Frank suspends an officer.	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	The Blacklist "Newton Purcell" (N)		Dateline NBC (N) CC			
FOX 17 222 28 32	Modern Family	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (N) (L)				Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Overheard	Washington Week	Firing-Hoover	Somewhere South (N) CC		Dishing-Julia	Dishing-Julia
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Charmed "Diplomatic Relations" (N) CC		Dynasty Blake and Cristal get charitable.		News	Seinfeld CC
MNT 50	Family Feud	Chicago P.D. "Big Friends Big Enemies"		CSI: Miami Volleyball players die suddenly.		CSI: Miami "In Plane Sight" CC	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	Charmed "Diplomatic Relations" (N) CC		Dynasty Blake and Cristal get charitable.		2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls
WHME 46	:00 Heartland	Heartland "Breaking Free" CC		Highway to Heaven "Back to Oakland"		The List (N) CC	Celebrity Page (N)
WGN 9	News	black-ish CC	black-ish CC	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	5:00 Live PD CC	:07 Live PD: Rewind (N) CC		Live PD "Live PD -- 04.03.20" (N) (L) CC			
AMC	Major League	★★★ Top Gun ('86) Tom Cruise. A hot-shot Navy jet pilot downs MiGs and loves an astrophysicist.					The Outsiders
Animal	Tanked	Tanked: Sea-Lebrity Edition (N)				Tanked CC	
BET	Bar	★★ The Best Man Holiday ('13) Morris Chestnut. CC					
Big Ten	Best	To Be Announced					B1G
Bravo	:00 Shahs of Sunset	Shahs of Sunset "Vida's Court" CC		Shahs of Sunset "The Shady Bunch"		Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows
Cartoon	Thun	Final Sp.	Final Sp.	Burgers	Rick	American	American
Cinemax	The Pledge	:05 ★★ Femme Fatale ('02) Rebecca Romijn-Stamos, Antonio Banderas. CC				Strike Back "Episode 8" (N) CC	
CMT	Last Man	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom
CNBC	Boss	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Comedy Cntrl Roast	
Discovery	:00 Gold Rush: Parker's Trail "Trial By Fire" (N) CC						
Disney	Zombies	Sydney	Coop	Raven	Just Roll	Coop	Sydney
DIY	Barnwood	Beachfrnt Reno		Beachfrnt Reno		Beachfrnt Reno	
E!	:00 ★★ Maid in Manhattan ('02) CC				The Wedding Planner ('01)		
ESPN	ESPN	Movie					
ESPN2	UFC	UFC Archival		UFC Archival		UFC Archival	
ESPNC	Baseball	MLB Baseball From Oct. 28, 1981.				MLB Baseball	
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	Tigers Lv.	MLB Baseball Cleveland Indians at Detroit Tigers.					
Freefrm	10 Things I Hate	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy
FX	:00 ★★ Minions ('15) Voices of Sandra Bullock. CC			★★ Peter Rabbit ('18) Voices of James Corden, Fayssal Bazzi. CC			
Golf	To Be Announced					To Be Announced	
Hallmark	Unleashing Mr	A Christmas Duet ('19, Romance) Teryl Rothery, Rome Flynn. CC				Golden Girls	Golden Girls
HBO	Kill Chain: War	7:55 ★★★ Slumdog Millionaire ('08) Dev Patel, Freida Pinto, Madhur Mittal. CC				Real Time With Bill Maher (N) CC	
History	Pawn	Pawn Stars		Pawn Stars (N)		:03 Pawn Stars (N)	
HGTV	Home	Dream	Dream	Home	Dream	Dream	Dream
Learning	90 Day	90 Day Fiancé: Before the 90 Days (N)				90 Day	90 Day
Lifetime	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens
MSNBC	Decision	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Eclipse	★★ The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1					Twilight
NBCSCH	TBA	To Be Announced					TBA
NFL	NFL Total	Path To the Draft		2020 NFL Scouting Combine CC			
Nick	Sponge.	Danger	Sponge.	Sponge.	Friends	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Lockup	Lockup: Grand		Lockup: Grand		Lockup: Women	
Oxygen	Dateline: Secrets	Dateline: Secrets Uncovered CC		Cold Justice CC		Cold Justice "Small Town Predator"	
Parmt	Two Men	★★★★ Raiders of the Lost Ark ('81) CC					Indiana
Showtime	★★★ Clear and Present Danger ('94) Harrison Ford. CIA chief combats Colombian drug cartels. CC					Mary Magdalene ('18) (P).	
Starz	The Stepfather	★★ Zombieland: Double Tap ('19) Woody Harrelson. CC			:42 Outlander CC		Once Upon
STZENC	6:33 ★★★ Born on the Fourth of July ('89) Tom Cruise.			★★★ Hellboy ('04, Fantasy) Ron Perlman, John Hurt, Selma Blair. CC			
SyFy	Lara Croft Tmb	★★★ John Wick ('14, Action) Keanu Reeves, Michael Nyqvist. CC (DVS)				Vagrant Queen "Yippee Ki Yay" (N)	
TBS	:00 ★★ We're the Millers ('13) Jennifer Aniston, Jason Sudeikis. CC (DVS)				★ Identity Thief ('13) Jason Bateman. CC (DVS)		
TCM	Man With Clk	★★★ Baby Boom ('87, Comedy) Diane Keaton, Harold Ramis. CC				★★★ Bachelor Mother ('39) CC	
TMC	The Impossible	★★ Second Act ('18) Jennifer Lopez, Leah Remini. CC			:45 ★★ I Feel Pretty ('18, Comedy) Amy Schumer. CC		
TNT	:00 Bones	★★ Star Wars: The Phantom Menace ('99) Liam Neeson.					
Travel	Portals	Portals to Hell "The Old Paulding Jail"				Portals to Hell (N)	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men
USA	:00 Chicago P.D.	Chicago P.D. CC (DVS)		Chicago P.D. Platt is physically assaulted.		Chicago P.D. "Big Friends Big Enemies"	
VH1	RuPaul	RuPaul's Drag Race (N) CC				Good Deeds	
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing

Quitting sugar is a challenge that requires awareness

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors

DEAR DOCTOR: I'm stalled on my resolution to quit eating sugar. Why is it so hard? I just can't seem to stop saying yes to sweets, especially my favorites – cookies and candy bars. Do you have any suggestions?

DEAR READER: First of all, please don't feel bad. In your quest to control your sugar intake, you're battling two powerful forces – biology and modern food science.

Sugars provide the body with an efficient source of energy, and the pursuit of them is hardwired into our brains. This, along with the fact that sugar wakes up the reward centers of the brain, has been weaponized by food scientists. The result is a vast array of sweet treats, many of them amped up with fats and salt, and each carefully designed to be irresistible. Adding to these challenges is the fact that quitting sugar cold turkey can leave you with genuine symptoms of withdrawal, including headache, fatigue, irritability and low mood. But don't despair. Armed with a bit of self-knowledge and a few deliberate strategies – and, yes, some willpower and discipline – you can successfully get your sweet tooth under control.

Start by becoming aware of how much sugar you eat, and when. Do you add it to your morning coffee or tea? Is it part of your breakfast? Do you drink sugared beverages? All of these, along with any candy, baked goods, ice cream or other sweet snacks that you grab throughout the day, contribute to the estimated 17 teaspoons of sugar that we Americans ingest daily. That's double the recommended limit of 9 teaspoons per day for men and triple the 6 teaspoons for women, and it adds up to almost 57(!) pounds of sugar per person per year. Since 75 percent of all processed foods – even those that come across as savory – contain added sugars, you'll need to check food labels for an accurate picture of your intake.

Once you've identified the sources of sugar in your diet, you can begin the process of weaning yourself off of it. If you're stirring it in to coffee, cut back a little each day until it's gone. If you're a soda drinker, switch to one of the many varieties of sparkling water that have become available. It is helpful to understand that sugar makes blood glucose levels spike, which triggers the pancreas to release insulin. That's the hormone that allows cells to absorb and use glucose for energy. A healthy blood sugar balance depends on limiting surges of insulin, so think in terms of meals and snacks full of protein, fiber and healthy fats. They will fill you up and lessen your cravings without making your blood sugar levels go crazy.

Artificial sweeteners may be tempting, but studies have linked them to a boomerang effect of craving more sugar, as well as to adverse effects on the gut microbiome. Plus, after just a few days of sugar abstinence, you'll find that your taste buds are waking up to the natural sugars in foods, which will become satisfying. There's no question that quitting sugar can be a challenge, so be kind to yourself and take things gradually.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

I'm jealous of my friend's successful new company

Carolyn Hax

DEAR CAROLYN: Almost two years ago, my good friend left the place we both worked and started her own company. She asked me to join her but it seemed too risky. Even her business plan put her chances of making money in the first two years at 50 percent at best. I've got a young child to think of and she doesn't, also she's always been more daring, so I declined her offer and wished her well.

At first I was a huge supporter of hers as she went through some hard times. Lately she's been racking up one major success after another and I'm frankly jealous. Especially knowing that could have been me sharing in the glory. Every time she sends a group text or email, I have to force myself to open it because it is ALWAYS more great news for her.

It's bringing out the worst in me. I don't even join in the congratulations anymore. I don't want to be this person, I hate it, but here I am. I'm even afraid I'll start hoping she has a setback. It seems my only options are to step back from the friendship, which will be hard and painful since we're part of the same large friend group, or to directly ask her to leave me off any news she sends out about her business, which I think will hurt her. What should I do? I don't want to be petty and jealous anymore. – Jealous

Jealous: Actually, it couldn't have been you sharing in the glory.

That's a trick our brains play on us unless we consciously shut it down: They let us think we just missed the lottery jackpot because we were behind the winner in line, or were almost run down in that crosswalk, or were chosen or spared by some power or another – yet that's just interesting narrative. Your ticket either wins or it doesn't. You're either hit or you aren't.

You're either in someone's career arc or you're not. There's no "almost."

You might feel this as a brush with wealth because you had the offer and turned it down. But had you accepted it, you and your good friend would be living in a different present from the one you're living in now. Who knows if the business would have followed the same trajectory? Who knows if you'd even still be friends?

Who knows the answer to this: Had you joined this business, you and she would have divided responsibilities, and instead of her running some errand or taking a certain trip, you might have done it instead – right? And what if that one different positioning of fate's levers had led to one of you getting sick, injured or killed; or getting randomly called to a different service window and getting a different outcome to your transaction; or one of you becoming absolutely convinced your business needed X instead of Y?

Search up the butterfly effect and let yourself off that hook.

Then, invite her to coffee. Drown your very real, very human, very normal and understandable envy in reminders of why you're friends. Make the effort. Mean it.

Unless ... her idea of friendship now is to group-text her successes. In that case, back as far off as you must.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

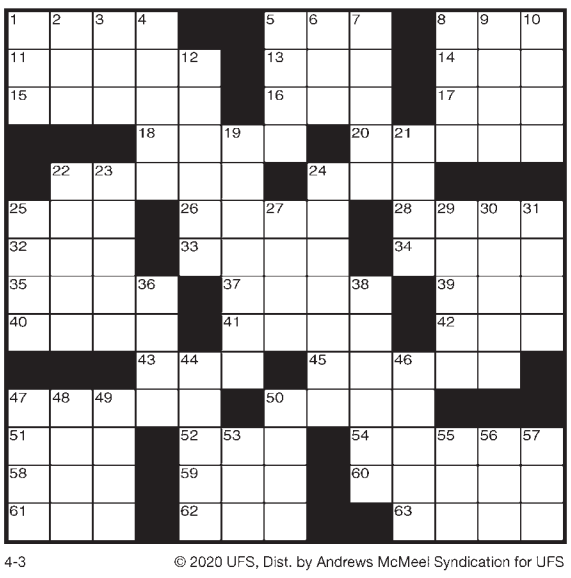
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Sugar lump
5 Kingly name
8 Arnold or Selleck
11 Fridge maker
13 Expert
14 Luau strings
15 Trading centers
16 Against
17 Awful
18 Glimpse from afar
20 Follows orders
22 Tax time
24 Literary collection
25 Letter after pi
26 Go hang-gliding
28 Superman, incognito
32 Not 'neath
33 Gibe at
34 Lamb's nom de plume
35 Avowal
37 March date
39 Digital watch readout
40 Inventory wd.
41 Point the finger at
42 Codgers' queries
43 Summer mo.
45 Lacking originality
47 Sirens
50 Mighty — — oak
51 Yes, to Yves
52 Safe caller
54 Glittering adornment
58 Psyche parts
59 Fish eggs
60 Fix, as in cement
61 Telegraph signal
62 Fabric meas.
63 Adder's cousins

DOWN
1 Trippet
2 Ms. Thurman
3 Block
4 PC key
5 Spicy
6 Novelist Umberto —
7 Kin of argon
8 Float downriver
9 Just fine
10 Docs prescribe them
12 Lend a hand
19 Farm work
21 Make bread
22 Winning
23 Waterfront cities
24 Goddess of the hunt
25 Hotel unit
27 Verdi princess
29 Ms. Burstyn
30 Alcove
31 Small kids
36 Stack
38 Legislative body
44 Loan-sharking
46 Feminine side
47 Empty
48 Car import
49 Spray
50 Orangutans
53 In style
55 Pecs' neighbors
56 Dem. alternative
57 Billboards

Answer to Previous Puzzle

	G	N	A	S	H			N	O	S	E	S
P	A	E	L	L	A		J	U	M	P	A	T
A	T	T	A	I	N		I	D	E	A	T	E
R	E	S	I	N		A	M	E	N			
					G	E	R	M		S	C	A	R
		F	I	E		E	N	Y	A		A	F	T
R	E	V	E	A	L			D	O	G	I	E
O	N	I	O	N			P	O	W	E	R	S
I	C	E		Y	V	E	S		L	Y	E	
L	E	S	S		E	R	I	E				
			E	D	N	A		L	I	V	E	S
Y	A	W	N	E	D		R	E	C	I	P	E
R	A	I	S	E	S		A	N	K	L	E	T
S	A	N	E	R			P	A	Y	E	E	



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JUMBLE

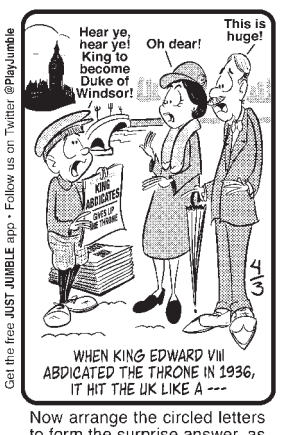
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LUTIG

ASTEE

BLIAVE

MTRWHA


Hear ye, hear ye! King to become Duke of Windsor!
Oh dear!
This is huge!
KING ABDICATES
DIES UP THE THRONE
WHEN KING EDWARD VIII ABDICATED THE THRONE IN 1936, IT HIT THE UK LIKE A ---

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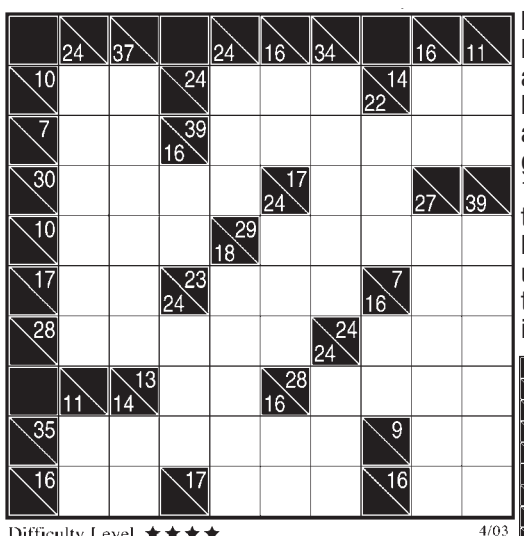
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

" _____ "

(Answers tomorrow)

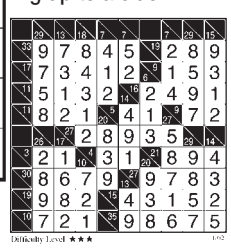
Yesterday's Jumbles: BASIC TARDY CANOPY GOSSIP
Answer: The owner of the old Swedish car was telling the mechanic his — "SAAB" STORY

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★★ 4/03

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/02

BRIDGE

Addison Walker, an actress, said, "It's not true that nice guys finish last. Nice guys are winners before the game even starts." But it is much better to be a nice winner than a nice loser.

How can South become a winner in this six-spade contract after West leads the heart king? I will tell you that the opposing clubs are breaking 4-3 and the trumps aren't 5-0.

In the auction, two spades was fourth-suit game-forcing, not promising length in the suit; but North raised to define his distribution exactly. Four no-trump was Roman Key Card Blackwood; and five hearts showed either two aces or one ace and the trump king; it denied holding the trump queen.

As is usually the case, whatever the contract, making this slam is a matter of counting winners.

If declarer draws trumps and runs the clubs, he takes only 11 tricks. When he plays a diamond, someone will win with the ace and cash the heart queen. The secret is to establish the 12th trick in diamonds immediately, leading the 10 to dummy's king.

East wins with the ace, but what does he return? If a heart, South ruffs, draws trumps ending in the dummy, returns to hand with a diamond to the queen and runs the clubs. If a diamond, declarer wins in hand with the queen, ruffs a club on the board (just in case they are 5-2), draws trumps ending in hand and cashes the clubs.

Two internationals, who may remain anonymous, won the opening heart lead and immediately cashed two rounds of trumps. They were losers.

North 04-03-20
♠ A K 6 4
♥ J 8 6 4 2
♦ K 8 3 2
♣ —

West
♠ 5
♥ K Q 10 7 3
♦ 9 7 4
♣ 10 6 3 2

East
♠ 10 8 3 2
♥ 9 5
♦ A J 6 5
♣ 8 5 4

South
♠ Q J 9 7
♥ A
♦ Q 10
♣ A K Q J 9 7

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
		1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ K

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

	3				4			
		9		1	5			
5		1				4	2	7
3		5	4	9	1			
			5	3	8	2		1
4	1	7				5		2
			1	4		8		
			3				7	

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

5	3	8	1	7	6	4	2	9
9	6	7	2	4	8	3	1	5
1	4	2	9	3	5	8	6	7
4	5	1	6	8	2	7	9	3
3	7	6	4	9	1	2	5	8
8	2	9	7	5	3	6	4	1
2	8	4	3	1	9	5	7	6
6	1	5	8	2	7	9	3	4
7	9	3	5	6	4	1	8	2

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Trump's daily briefings are excruciating

Jonah Goldberg

On Sunday, President Donald Trump, absent any hard evidence, suggested that large numbers of masks were being stolen from New York hospitals, citing an unnamed facility he said had seen a huge surge in mask usage. "How do you go from 10 to 20 (thousand masks being used), to 300,000?" Trump said.

And he didn't stop there. "Where are the masks going – are they going out the back door?" Trump posited. "Somebody should probably look into that, because I just don't see from a practical standpoint how that's possible."

Perhaps – just perhaps – the increased volume of masks being used is correlated with the emergence of a runaway, highly contagious pandemic? I wonder if Joseph Stalin ever said during the Battle of Stalingrad: "This doesn't make sense. Normally they only want 20,000 boxes of ammunition. All of sudden they want 300,000? Someone must be stealing the bullets."

Is it possible there is some mask pilfering by staff? Sure. But why is the president hypothesizing about this off the top of his head? Why not use his position as the most powerful man in America to have "somebody" look into the situation before he blurts out an accusation without facts to back it up?

This is just one example of why I hate these daily news briefings. I hate them with a kind of loathing I have not experienced before. Sure, I resent having to watch them, but that's not a new sensation. I see it as a professional obligation, like watching the State of the Union address (which I also despise). So, it's not the due diligence part that vexes me. It's the experience of feeling like we're all supposed to pretend the president is up to this challenge.

And when I say we, I do mean we. In crises, it's normal to rally around the president and give him the benefit of the doubt. After the 9/11 attacks, George W. Bush's approval rating hit 90 percent for a moment. It's not that everyone suddenly agreed with, or even liked, Bush, but they were willing to give the president the benefit of the doubt during a moment of peril.

For the last three years, as a conservative who just can't board the Trump Train, I've been urged by people, including friends, to put my personal feelings aside and support the president. Such demands to become a cheerleader were easy to dismiss during a time of peace and prosperity as mere exhortations for partisan loyalty.

But this is a different time and it's a real dilemma. Do you go along, even at the margins, with the fiction that Trump is up to this challenge? Or do you shine a light on his inadequacy?

I think the answer depends largely on what lane you're in. Governors and public health officials, like Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, need the support of the president to do their jobs. If that means swallowing hard and praising the president when it's not warranted, that's a small price to pay, at least during a crisis.

Still, it is beyond outrageous that Americans have to witness the spectacle of public health officials tailoring their responses to questions so as to not offend the president. It's the pandemic version of Kremlinology, parsing the statements of responsible officials for hints of the truth beneath the boilerplate praise and line-toeing.

It's even worse that we have to put up with a president who answers questions off the cuff without regard for facts or concern for how what he is saying might be misinterpreted. Add in his incessant dedication to petty grievances, partisan puffery and chest-beating braggadocio, along with all of the obligatory obsequiousness he requires of officials who know far more than he does. Together, these things create an affirmative need to call out the nonsense, because the nonsense isn't just annoying, it's dangerous.

Holding Trump accountable creates its own problems, of course. Some of the coverage mirrors the president's shortcomings, making the crisis about Trump's meanness to the media. Moreover, the president craves a foil, which is why such sizable portions of these daily sessions are dedicated to assaults on the news media.

Trump is enjoying a small bump in his approval ratings, though nothing like what George W. Bush or other presidents got during other rally-around-the-president moments. This meager improvement is partly explainable by partisanship. But it has more to do, I think, with the fact that the president is incapable of doing what other presidents do in such moments: earn the benefit of the doubt by rising to the occasion.

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online. Email: JonahsColumn@aol.com.

ANOTHER OPINION

For some kids, there is danger as they shelter in place at home

As children across the country adjust to their new normal of school at home, we're reminded that for many of them, schools provided their only refuge from their struggles at home.

Districts have rallied to make sure kids can still get the meals they would have gotten at school. But we also can't lose sight that schools were often the first line of defense against child abuse.

And in these uncertain times when it appears we could be sheltering at home for weeks, it's up to this community to step up for these vulnerable kids.

Experts tell us that domestic violence can increase when people are in close proximity for extended periods. They also tell us that there is a greater risk of child abuse in families where there is enormous stress – isolation, struggles paying the bills, uncertainty over well-being.

It's a reality in this coronavirus crisis that many families are experiencing all of the above. We know that abused children can have lifelong trauma and difficulties succeeding in school and developing relationships.

The message from prevention experts is clear: Be aware and if you see something, report it.

As we're making rare trips to the grocery store or pharmacy, look for obvious signs of abuse. Do you see kids with bruises, burns or welts? Does a child appear in distress, frightened of the parent or the caregiver?

When teachers and counselors are checking in with kids online, encourage students to reach out as you would at school if they're in trouble.

Parents, do quick over-the-shoulder check-ins with your kids' friends when they're videoconferencing on social media. If you were planning to attend a canceled luncheon or gala for an organization that works on the prevention of abuse, send a check anyway.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The aim is to keep kids safe and families strong and thriving. These are difficult times for all of us.

But these vulnerable kids need us more than ever.

See something? Report it.

Call your state's child abuse hotline if a situation is urgent and needs to be investigated within 24 hours.

Call 911 or your local law enforcement agency if you have an emergency or life-threatening situation that must be dealt with immediately.

– The Dallas Morning News

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel.

We wear the pandemic on our faces

Kathleen Parker

Many years ago when I was a young mother, my toddler son vanished from sight when I turned my back for a few seconds to water some flowers. Frantic, I ran to the street and looked in both directions, shrieking his name.

Nothing, nowhere. *How could this be?*

A few seconds passed when a police car suddenly materialized.

"Did you lose your child?" the officer asked.

"Yes," I nearly screamed. "Did you find him?"

"No," he said, "but you have that look."

Horror is what he saw. Thanks to a nearby jogger, JC was found a block away, gleefully chasing a cat that had wandered by during that blink of an eye when mine was turned elsewhere. Happy ending. Lesson learned.

I've never forgotten the officer's haunting words and the agonies they suggested. Apparently, he had seen the expression enough times to recognize it. I've thought of them again recently as I've begun to notice "that look" we can now ascribe to the pandemic.

As I take my morning walks, I can see the faces. The hellos are polite but the brows are deeply furrowed. They tell the story of a nation in shock, the fear and grief over the loss of the world they knew and may never know again.

The pandemic has created a new etiquette to go with The Look. It's a mixture of politesse and pragmatism. Two strangers will smile and duck their heads almost bashfully as they attempt to dodge each other, as if to say: *I'm so sorry. I'm sure you're a very nice person, but you might also be a human droplet of viral death so, if you'll pardon the expression, get the hell away from me. Sorry!*

Then comes worse news. MIT researcher Lydia Bourouiba has published a paper suggesting that virus-infused droplets can travel as far as 27 feet. Her critics say that if such were the case, we'd all be sick by now, which is about as consoling as hearing Nancy Pelosi say, "Testing, testing, testing."

The silver lining? That's easy: families are staying home, cooking and eating meals together. Parents are home-schooling and probably not loving it but surely appreciating their kids' teachers a bit more. We no longer debate quality versus quantity time with so much of both going around. People also have more time to think, reflect, read, create and complete long-postponed, home projects of importance, such as binge-watching "Ozark."

But, the easy part is now over. The two-week, shelter-in-place, stay-cation – which many people needed anyway to catch up on sleep or pay their taxes – has run its course. The harder, longer, home-alone slog is just beginning and could last two months. Which raises the question: how long can previously free-ranging Americans remain sane under, essentially, house arrest?

Meanwhile, we've become subject to an incessant barrage of terrible news, as well as the daily press briefings of President Trump, whose sudden flair for verbiage rivals that of the late Fidel Castro, who would speak for hours and hours while his subjects probably feigned rapt attention. One can't help noticing, too, that many of Trump's team members seem careful to preface their remarks with accolades for the president's incredible leadership.

Those remarks are the opposite of reassuring, but you also get the idea the President relishes the salutes. Recall when Trump, having witnessed North Koreans "sit up at attention" to their Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, remarked that he'd like for his people to do the same to him? *Well, hello, Pandemic.* Trump has also recently said that Democratic governors "have to treat us well" if they want face masks and ventilators. One dares not cross the supreme leader, one reckons.

Trump's transformation – from first calling the virus a hoax to trying to use it as leverage only adds to the despair many are feeling. How can a country survive this test when its chief executive officer so lacks the virtues of leadership?

What's clear from this reckoning and others to come is that, contra the we're-all-in-this-together mantra, we're all on our own. This means we need to wipe That Look off our faces and focus on staying well – inside our respective dwellings, comforted by the prospect that the curve will flatten and the virus will subside in time for the body politic to heal itself on Election Day. It really has become a matter of life and death.

Kathleen Parker is a columnist for The Washington Post. Email: kathleenparker@washpost.com.

Government is and always will be flawed

Ben Shapiro

"There are no libertarians in a global pandemic." So goes the smug punchline of large-government advocates who point to the necessity of collective action in the face of an unprecedented global crisis. Without government, they say, we'd all be dead.

Few libertarians would disagree. The hardcore libertarians at Reason magazine aren't spending their days fulminating over the evils of government-required lockdown orders in the face of a fast-spreading, deadly disease. That's because they, like all other sentient human beings, recognize that collective action is sometimes necessary.

But here's the dirty little secret: Institutional failures during this pandemic are more indicative of what our politics should be during nonpandemic situations, not the blunt-force ability of the government to shut down the global economy and force us all to stay home. The question isn't whether government has power. Government *is* power. The question is how and when to apply that power. And what we've seen is that government sucks at everything, even the most basic things it is supposed to do well.

Democrats and the media like to pretend that government's failures in this process aren't endemic to government control. They like to blame such failures on Republicans, and on President Donald Trump specifically. But that's just not the case. Human beings are fallible, stupid, gullible and self-interested. Human beings who have the power of government to back them are not less human for having that power. Their humanity just has direr consequences, which is why in nonemergency circumstances, checks and balances are absolutely necessary.

Take, for example, the early days of the pandemic. Democrats say Trump was slow to respond to the incipient threat. But so were Democrats. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi recently declared, "As Trump fiddles, people are dying," but in late February, she was walking the streets of Chinatown, encouraging citizens to join her. New York Mayor Bill De Blasio has ripped Trump for his supposed downplaying of the virus, but De Blasio spent a month poo-pooing its threat. When confronted about that simple fact by CNN's Jake Tapper, De Blasio conveniently suggested that stop looking backward.

Why should we trust these people, exactly?

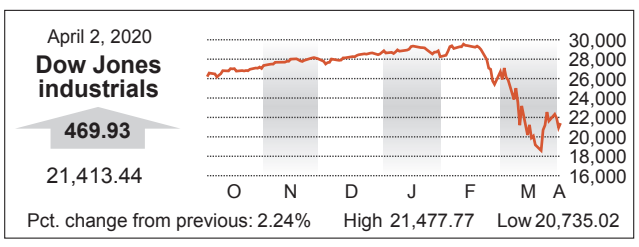
Or take the roots of America's inability to provide the health care resources necessary to hospitals across the country. While state and local governments were frittering away billions of dollars on useless government spending, they did precisely nothing to prepare for exactly the sort of black swan events for which governments were presumably invented. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention spent a month failing to produce useful tests and prevented physicians in Seattle from performing proper testing, even after President Trump issued a travel ban on China. For years in advance, members of the federal government of both parties had been warned about the need for ventilators and masks. No one produced or stockpiled them. The Food and Drug Administration's red tape prevented the quick development of new measures to deal with the novel coronavirus.

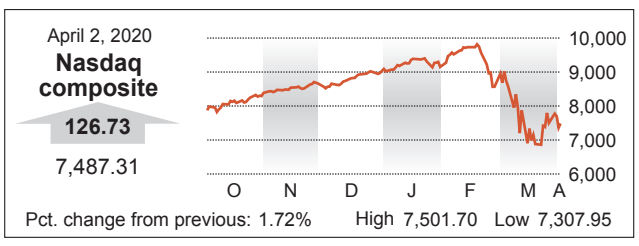
Why should these people control our lives, when the threat of the red death isn't hovering on our doorstep?

The government is a giant, lumbering idiot. Sometimes we need a giant, lumbering idiot. Almost always, we do not. And those who have used this pandemic response – one of the rare times we need a giant, lumbering idiot to intimidate people into preventing mass infection of one another, and to borrow the money necessary to redress the injuries thus incurred – as a rationale for a government-run "new politics" should have their heads examined.

Ben Shapiro is editor-in-chief of DailyWire.com.

MARKETS





Amer Elec Power AEP
$76.79 **-6.61 -7.9%**
▼ **4-wk.** -22.3% ▼ **YTD** -18.7%

Whirlpool WHR
$81.63 **-2.63 -3.1%**
▼ **4-wk.** -34.6% ▼ **YTD** -44.7%

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	◇CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.70	28.76	+.71	+2.5	▼	▼	▼
AEP	AEP	65.14	104.97	76.79	+2.22	+3.0	▼	▼	▼
Apple Inc	AAPL	170.27	327.85	244.93	+4.02	+1.7	▼	▼	▼
AutoZone	AZO	684.91	1274.41	794.65	+17.79	+2.3	▼	▼	▼
BP PLC	BP	15.51	45.38	26.03	+1.66	+6.8	▲	▼	▲
CMS Eng	CMS	46.03	69.12	56.86	+1.15	+2.1	▼	▼	▼
CocaCola	KO	36.27	60.07	43.95	+1.83	+4.3	▲	▼	▼
Comcast	CMCSA	31.71	47.74	34.37	+1.95	+6.0	▲	▼	▬
Deere	DE	106.14	180.48	139.38	+5.71	+4.3	▲	▼	▲
Disney	DIS	79.07	153.41	96.97	+2.05	+2.2	▲	▼	▲
DollarTree	DLTR	60.20	119.71	70.46	-2.48	-3.4	▼	▼	▼
ExxonMbl	XOM	30.11	83.49	40.40	+2.87	+7.6	▲	▼	▲
FifthThird	FITB	11.10	31.64	14.28	+.83	+6.1	▼	▼	▼
1stSource	SRCE	26.07	53.42	31.37	+.93	+3.1	▲	▼	▼
FordM	F	3.96	10.56	4.36	-.04	-0.9	▼	▼	▼
GenElec	GE	5.90	13.26	6.90	-.14	-2.0	▼	▼	▼
HomeDp	HD	140.63	247.12	181.31	+2.68	+1.5	▼	▼	▼
HorizBcp	HBNC	7.42	19.48	9.29	+.37	+4.1	▼	▼	▼
HuntBncsh	HBAN	6.85	15.63	7.37	-.08	-1.1	▼	▼	▼
IDEX	IEX	104.56	178.14	136.38	+3.18	+2.4	▲	▼	▼
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	110.00	+4.86	+4.6	▲	▼	▼
JPMorgCh	JPM	76.91	141.10	87.51	+3.15	+3.7	▼	▼	▼
JohnJn	JNJ	109.16	154.50	133.15	+4.34	+3.4	▲	▼	▲
Lowes	LOW	60.00	126.73	82.86	+2.44	+3.0	▼	▼	▼
McDnlds	MCD	124.23	221.93	161.50	+3.33	+2.1	▼	▼	▼
Microsoft	MSFT	118.10	190.70	155.26	+3.15	+2.1	▲	▼	▼
MillerHer	MLHR	14.39	49.88	20.17	-.49	-2.4	▼	▼	▼
Penney	JCP	0.29	1.47	.30	-.03	-9.2	▼	▼	▼
Perrigo	PRGO	40.01	63.86	42.80	-2.31	-5.1	▼	▼	▼
Pfizer	PFE	27.88	44.56	32.87	+1.12	+3.5	▲	▼	▲
ProctGam	PG	94.34	128.09	114.40	+5.07	+4.6	▲	▼	▲
RepubSvc	RSG	65.37	100.91	75.23	+2.52	+3.5	▲	▼	▲
Steelcse	SCS	7.02	23.02	8.43	-.30	-3.4	▼	▼	▼
Stryker	SYK	124.54	226.30	149.58	+4.91	+3.4	▼	▼	▼
TCF Finl	TCF	16.96	47.46	22.23	+1.21	+5.8	▼	▼	▼
Target	TGT	70.03	130.24	94.36	-.91	-1.0	▼	▼	▲
TractSupp	TSCO	63.89	114.25	84.15	+.15	+0.2	▲	▼	▼
UPS B	UPS	82.00	125.31	93.04	+2.65	+2.9	▼	▲	▼
VerizonCm	VZ	48.84	62.22	55.25	+2.33	+4.4	▲	▼	▲
WEC Engy	WEC	68.01	109.53	88.01	+4.49	+5.4	▼	▼	▼
WalMart	WMT	98.15	128.08	118.65	+4.51	+4.0	▲	▲	▲
WalgBoots	WBA	40.52	64.50	40.32	-2.71	-6.3	▼	▼	▼
Wendys Co	WEN	6.82	24.04	13.35	-.62	-4.4	▼	▼	▼
Whrlpl	WHR	64.00	163.64	81.63	+1.03	+1.3	▼	▼	▼
Worthgtn	WOR	19.28	44.69	24.15	-.54	-2.2	▲	▼	▼
XPO Logis	XPO	38.47	100.18	46.86	+.66	+1.4	▼	▼	▼

PRODUCE PRICES

The following fruit prices were recorded on the Chicago Terminal Market on Wednesday. Prices are not net to the growers as freight and selling fees have not been deducted. These prices were provided by the USDA Market News Branch office in Chicago.

APPLES: Cartons tray pack of Washington Extra Fancy 72s Red Delicious sold from mostly $25-26, Golden Delicious sold lower from mostly $35-36, Fuji sold from $30-34, Pink Lady brought $38-40, Gala sold from mostly $33-34, and 72 size Honeycrisp sold for $36, with fine appearance offerings mostly $53-54. Cartons of 12 3-pound film bags of Washington WA Extra Fancy 2 1/2-inch minimum Red Delicious sold for $22, while Golden Delicious brought $23, Gala sold for $23-24, while bushel cartons loose of Michigan 3 inch minimum Golden Delicious, Gala and Jonagold brought $20.

ASPARAGUS: Pyramid cartons/crates 11-pound bunched standard size from Mexico sold lower for $16, while large white bunched from Peru sold steady for $18-20. Organic standard size green offerings from Mexico sold from mostly $22-24.

BEANS: Bushel cartons/crates of round green type machine-picked offerings from Florida sold steady for $12-14.

BERRIES: Flats of 12 6-ounce cups with lids of medium-large berries from Chile sold for $21, while offerings from Florida and Mexico sold for $20. Organic offerings from California of fine appearance brought mostly $33-34. Strawberries in flats of 8 1-lb containers medium size from Florida sold lower from mostly $5-6, with fine appearance offerings $16-16.50, while offerings from California brought $12, with fine appearance $16.50. Organic offerings from Mexico of fine appearance sold for $32.50.

BROCCOLI: Cartons of 14 bunches from Arizona/California sold steady from mostly $19-20.

CABBAGE: 50-pound cartons of round green medium from Texas sold lower for $18, while red offerings brought $19.

CAULIFLOWER: Cartons of 12 film wrapped heads from Arizona/California sold sharply lower from $15-16, with organic offerings $42.

CORN: Wirebound crates of 4 dozen bi-color and yellow from Florida sold lower from mostly $13-15.

CUCUMBERS: 1-1/9-bushel cartons from Mexico of medium size sold much lower for $21, with large $18, and carton 24s sold lower from $14-16. Pickles of 200-300 size from Mexico steady sold lower for $36-38.

EGGPLANT: 1-1/9-bushel cartons of 24-count eggs from Mexico sold lower for $22.50-24, with medium offerings from Florida $24-26.

LETTUCE: Cartons film wrapped 24 heads of iceberg lettuce from Arizona/California sold lower for $12-14, with fine appearance offerings $18.

ORANGES: Cartons of 10 4-pound film bags of Florida 80 size Valencia juice oranges sold for $22.

PEPPERS: 1-1/9-bushel cartons of Florida green jumbos sold steady for $35, with extra-large and large $34 and choppers $23.50. Medium size jalapeno peppers from Mexico sold for $19-20, while extra-large poblano sold from $20-22, serranos brought $26-28, and medium Hungarian wax sold from $24-26.

SQUASH: 4/7-bushel cartons of small zucchini sold for $19 with medium zucchini from Mexico $10 while small-medium size yellow straightneck sold for $27, with medium size $17. 1 1/9-bushel cartons from Mexico of large size acorn sold lower for $20, while butternut small sold for mostly $20-22, and spaghetti mostly $18-19.

OBITUARIES

Ta'Shayla V. Lacy

May 14, 1996 – March 17, 2020

Ta'Shayla Vernae Lacy, 23, of Benton Harbor went to be with the Lord on March 17, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

A public visitation will be held from 11 a.m.-noon on Monday, April 6, at the Latter Day Worship C.O.G.I.C., Benton Harbor. A private service for immediate family will follow. Those wishing to sign the guest book online may do so at www.robbinsbrothersfh.com.

Ta'Shayla was born May 14, 1996, to James Lacy Jr. and Vanessa Lee, and she graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 2014.

Ta'Shayla was a loving, energetic and devoted mother to her beautiful daughters, London Perry and Morgan Thompson. She had a special loved one, Myron Stubbs of Benton Harbor; parents, James (Monika) Lacy of Benton Harbor and Vanessa (Charles) Lee of Orlando, Fla.; sister, Erica Lacy of Orlando; brother, Jaidon Lacy of Benton Harbor; grandparents, James (Veda) Lacy Sr. of San Antonio, Texas; niece, Brooklyn McDowell of Orlando; extended family, Malik, Christine, Renada and Anaya of Benton Harbor; and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Raelynn Stubbs; maternal grandparents, Calvin and Gennie Rogers; uncles, Calvin Rogers Sr. and William Lacy; and aunt, Ingrid Williams.

Death notices

Freda Harris, 88, of Watervliet died April 2, 2020, at The Willows, St. Joseph. Hutchins Funeral Home, Watervliet, 463-3811.

Ta'Shayla V. Lacy, 23, of Benton Harbor died March 17, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Ester Dorothy (All) Lancaster, 85, of Stevensville died April 2, 2020, at Royalton Manor, St. Joseph. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Gertrude "Trudy" Latham, 90, of Covert died April 1, 2020. Hutchins Funeral Home, Watervliet, 463-3811.

Barbara A. Reynolds, 73, of St. Joseph died April 2, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Heritage Chapel and Cremation Services, Berrien Springs, 471-2700.

Susan Jo Trimble, 76, of Three Oaks died April 1, 2020, at her residence. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Sarah P. Westen, 85, of Niles died April 1, 2020, at West Woods of Niles. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Austin E. McCarver

Aug. 19, 1928 – April 1, 2020

Austin E. McCarver, 91 of Watervliet passed away Wednesday, April 1, 2020, at South Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Private family services will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, April 3, at Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home in Coloma. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery in Watervliet. Those wishing to leave an online message of comfort for the family may do so at www.duffieldpastrick.com.

Austin was born Aug. 19, 1928, in Madison County, Tenn., to Wayne F. and Rachel A. (Staggs) McCarver. He served in the National Guard for two years and then worked for Auto Specialties until they closed. Austin also owned his own lawn care business and had worked for Walmart as a greeter until 1996. He attended the First Free Will Baptist Church and loved singing and playing his guitar in a country band. Austin was a hard working man of his word who believed in paying any debts he felt he owed, monetary or otherwise.

Survivors include a sister, Edna Foster; daughters, Dorothy (Bruce) George, Barbara McCarver and Cheryl (Leon) Smith; son, Austin McCarver; grandchildren: David (Julie) George, Keith (Lori) George, Kevin (Valerie) George, Kenny George, Jason McCarver, Terri (Javier) Lopez, Molly (Rod) Laylin, Jared McCarver, Aryenne McCarver, Jeremy Russell, Samantha Russell and Aaron McCarver; and many great-grandchildren.

Austin was preceded in death by his brother, Floyd; a sister, Anne; a daughter, Melba; and granddaughter, Kelley.

Coronavirus continues rampage through Michigan

By JUSTIN P. HICKS
mlive.com (TNS)

Michigan has 1,457 new cases of coronavirus COVID-19 as of Thursday afternoon, which brings the state's total confirmed cases to 10,791.

Additionally, the state reported 80 new deaths during its 3 p.m. update. That brings the virus' death toll in Michigan to 417.

One week ago today, the state had 2,896 cases and 60 deaths. Confirmed cases have increased significantly each day since the state began reporting numbers in early March, due in part to an increase in testing.

The number of new cases announced Thursday was the first decline in new cases in a 24-hour period from the day before since Sunday, March 29.

Sixty-eight of Michigan's 83 counties are home to at least one confirmed case of coronavirus, with Dickinson County announcing its first positive case on Thursday.

Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties remain the three hardest hit areas in Michigan with 79.5 percent of the total confirmed cases and almost 89 percent of the state's deaths from the virus. The trio of Southeast Michigan counties are home to 39 percent of the state's residents.

In Detroit alone, there are 2,858 cases of COVID-19 and 101 deaths. The disproportionate number of cases in the metro Detroit area is a result of multiple factors, including the large population, more aggressive testing in those counties and community spread of coronavirus, according to experts.

Counties that announced their first death Thursday include Clinton, Eaton, Grand Traverse, and Van Buren.

As of Thursday, Wayne County leads the state with 5,069 cases, including 2,858 in Detroit alone. Oakland County has 2,183 cases, followed by Macomb with 1,332, Washtenaw with 438 and Genesee with 349.

Wayne County has had 194 deaths, while Oakland County has reported 119 and Macomb County has had 58.

Health officials expected the number of confirmed cases to increase dramatically as more testing has become available.

Of the 29,324 total specimens tests in Michigan as of Wednesday, 7,158 tests were positive (24.4 percent) and 22,054 tests were negative for COVID-19.

Counts of specimens tested positive will not equal the number of people with COVID-19, state health officials said, because people may have more than one test or may have had their test from an out-of-state lab. The total number of samples tested also include those that were inconclusive.

Prevention

In addition to washing hands regularly and not touching your face, officials recommend practicing social distancing, assuming anyone may be carrying the virus. Health officials say you should be staying at least 6 feet away from others and working from home, if possible. Carry hand sanitizer with you, and use disinfecting wipes or disinfecting spray cleaners on frequently-touched surfaces in your home (door handles, faucets, countertops) and when you go into places like stores.

The pool table is sick and tired of being used for laundry.
To place a classified ad in The Herald-Palladium, please call 429-4484. Phones are open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

BLOOD DRIVES

American Red Cross

Noon-5:45 p.m. today, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2673 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville.

Noon-5:45 p.m. today, St. Basil Catholic Church, 513 Monroe Blvd., South Haven.

11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Wednesday, Silver Beach Center, 333 Broad St., St. Joseph.

Versiti Blood Center

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

Noon-7 p.m. Wednesday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. April 11, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. April 12, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 112 pounds.

Births

Lakeland Medical Center – Niles

Dowagiac – Girl, 8 pounds, 10 ounces, Katherine (Heywood) and Jonathan Tidey, 8:42 a.m. March 18.

Lakeland Medical Center – St. Joseph

Benton Harbor – Boy, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, Alyssa Thomas and Mark Petty Jr., 8:23 p.m. March 28.

Benton Harbor – Boy, 6 pounds, 9 ounces, Tiera Wallace and Antonio Daniels, 8:25 a.m. March 27.

New Buffalo – Girl, 10 pounds even, Rebecca O'Connor and Zakary Brennand, 8:58 p.m. March 26.

Niles – Boy, 6 pounds even, Stephanie and Byrel Mitchell, 6:46 p.m. March 27.

WAYLAND LIVESTOCK

Wayland Livestock sales as of Tuesday, March 31. Prices are per pound.

Choice steers & heifers 90 cents-$1.00

High yielding choice & prime 84 cents-87 cents

Utility cows 50 cents-59 cents

Canner & cutter cows 35 cents-52 cents

Bulls 65 cents-82 cents

Top bull calves 50 cents-90 cents

Hay $3.00-$6.90 per bale

Straw $4.00-$5.00 per bale

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DO YOU REMEMBER?

25 years ago – 1995

A head of lettuce was selling for $1.99 today at Hilltop Foods in St. Joseph, compared to only 69 cents two weeks ago. "It's the highest it's ever been," said Dan Rohm, Hilltop's produce manager. Many produce items grown in California have doubled and tripled in price following mid-March floods that washed out late winter crops in the Salinas Valley.

35 years ago – 1985

A nursing program approved by the Lake Michigan College Board of Trustees will enable people who are already registered nurses who don't have bachelor's degrees to obtain BSN degrees from Nazareth College without having to take any classes in Kalamazoo.

Dr. Dorothy Leader, dean of health sciences, said that Nazareth hopes to start the program this fall. Tuition will be $90 per credit hour, less than what Nazareth charges on campus.

50 years ago – 1970

The Berrien County Council of Churches will hold a ground breaking ceremony Sunday at the new site of the Homes for Berrien County Families townhouses on South Crystal Avenue. Construction of the $2,651,000 project will begin Monday.

William Schumacher, general contractor, said he expects the 160-unit subdivision will be completed within 10 or 11 months. Schumacher said the fast production will be made possible by a design produced by architect Wayne Hatfield & Associates with eight modules forming the one to four bedroom homes.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, April 3, the 94th day of 2020. There are 272 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On April 3, 1996, Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski was arrested at his remote Montana cabin.

On this date:

In 1860, the legendary Pony Express began carrying mail between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California. (The delivery system lasted only 18 months before giving way to the transcontinental telegraph.)

In 1882, outlaw Jesse James was shot to death in St. Joseph, Missouri, by Robert Ford, a member of James' gang.

In 1936, Bruno Hauptmann was electrocuted in Trenton, New Jersey, for the kidnap-murder of Charles Lindbergh Jr.

In 1942, during World War II, Japanese forces began their final assault on Bataan against American and Filipino troops who surrendered six days later; the capitulation was followed by the notorious Bataan Death March.

In 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Smith v. Allwright, struck down a Democratic Party of Texas rule that allowed only white voters to participate in Democratic primaries.

In 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the Marshall Plan, designed to help European allies rebuild after World War II and resist communism.

In 1990, jazz singer Sarah Vaughan died in suburban Los Angeles at age 66.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Mostly Cloudy	Chance Showers	Few Showers	Few Showers	Few Showers	Scattered T-storms
58°	44°	45° / 35°	49° / 42°	55° / 48°	59° / 47°

Local Outlook

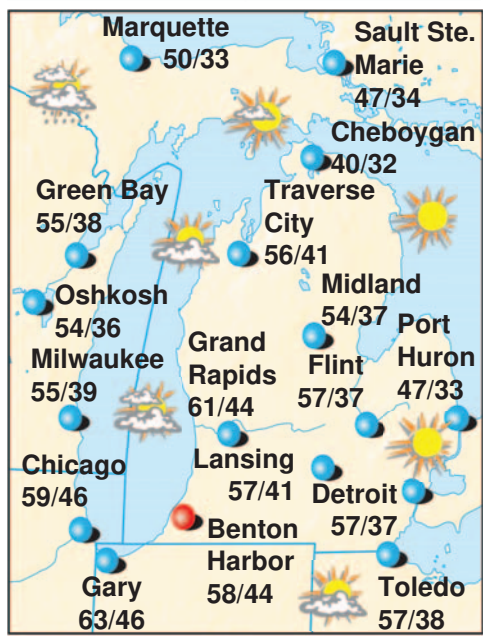
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 58°, humidity of 49%. Southeast wind 2 to 5 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a 30% chance of showers, overnight low of 44°. East southeast wind 3 to 9 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 39°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise	7:24 a.m.
Sunset	8:14 p.m.
Moonrise	2:50 p.m.
Moonset	5:04 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
4/7	4/14	4/22	4/30

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	58°
Low	28°
Normal High	54°
Normal Low	34°
Record High	80° in 2010
Record Low	21° in 2018

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal for month	0.18"
Year to date	6.89"
Normal Year to date	5.83"

Air Quality

Yesterday	32
Main Offender	Ozone

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50	Good
51-100	Moderate
101-150	Sensitive
151-200	Unhealthy

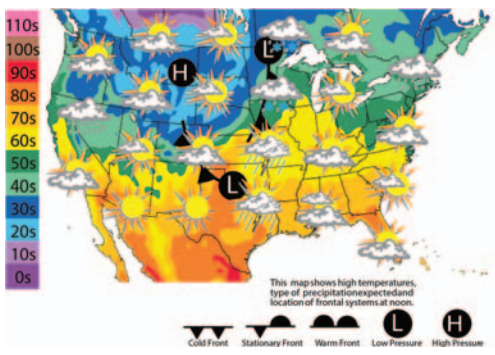
Weather Trivia

Where did the term "hurricane" come from?

Answer: It was derived from Huracan, a Carib God of Evil.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for April 3, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, Variable winds 5 kt or less. Partly sunny. Waves 1 ft or less. Water temperature 36 degrees. Tonight, E wind 5 to 9 kt. A chance of showers. Waves 1 ft or less.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with isolated rain, highs in the 40s and 50s. East northeast wind 3 to 8 mph. Expect mostly cloudy to cloudy skies Saturday with widespread showers, highs in the 30s and 40s.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with highs from the 40s to the 60s. Southeast wind 2 to 5 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Saturday with scattered showers and rain, highs in the 40s and 50s. West wind 7 mph.

ADAPT

From page A1

we're probably not going to graduate them. We're going to say they have to come back during the summer to complete their work. ... The intention of her order was not to automatically graduate all students to the next level."

Lakeshore Superintendent Phil Freeman said school districts were told they would receive templates today that contain specific criteria on what students at each grade level should know before they advance to the next grade level.

"Learning is not going to cease," he said. "We're pretty confident we're on the right track and there won't be a major change in how we're doing things."

Whitmer's order applies to all public, private and boarding school buildings in Michigan. It does leave open the possibility of classes resuming if restrictions on public gatherings are lifted before the end of the 2019-20 academic year.

District facilities can still be used by public school employees and contractors for the purposes of learning at a distance.

Students will be awarded credit and grades for courses taken based on coursework through March 11. Plans from Michigan intermediate school districts are expected to be released over the next few days.

Most administrators have been preparing in the event of a total school closure.

Coloma Community Schools Superintendent Dave Ehlers said it's unfortunate because he'd rather have the kids in school, but the district will do the best it can while keeping the kids safe.

"It's nothing we didn't anticipate, and there's a group of us that have been planning for this for a while," he said. "Berrien RESA should come out with a plan within the coming days, and I'm pretty sure we're already doing a lot of stuff in it."

Watervliet Public Schools Superintendent Ric Seager said Thursday that the order provides clarity for districts.

"Our outstanding team of educators and support staff have done a great job, so far, under very trying circumstances," Seager said. "Over the next week, we will be rolling out plans and guidance for students, teachers, parents, and others regarding how we will continue, and improve, our services to our students and our community during this closure."

Ehlers said he likes that Whitmer left some flexibility at the local level for districts to teach kids how they can in their communities.

He said it's difficult teaching kids remotely in the Coloma area because, though they have quite a few families at or near the poverty line, internet connection isn't a poverty issue.

"It's a geographic issue," Ehlers said. "We have some affluent families that can't get high-speed internet based on where they live."

He said remote learning also presents a challenge in supporting students who have social or emotional issues, but that the district will do do the best it can.

In South Haven, Superintendent Kevin Schooley also said his staff has been anticipating such an order. "Thankfully, before this order was issued we were working with teachers to develop ways to communicate (online) with kids," Schooley said.

When the governor issued the first stay-at-home order on March 12, the school district also sent each child home with a computer device and charger, along with a list of online enrichment courses they could take.

South Haven Schools is also working to improve internet connectivity for students living in rural areas.

"We've been working through internet issues," Schooley said.

He's hoping that by April 10, the district's online instruction plan will receive approval so that classes can be taught to students.

"It's surreal," Schooley said, regarding the changes the COVID-19 pandemic has brought for students and teachers. "We're praying for the best, but preparing for the worst," he said.

In Covert, Superintendent Yolanda Blunt said she "will be meeting with my administrative team to discuss how our district will address various issues, including graduation."

Bangor Superintendent Lynn Johnson agreed that graduation will present a challenge. "Right now we plan on having graduation, but whether it will be as scheduled or later in the summer (July or August) is yet to be seen. Much depends on the whole social distancing issue, etc. I know whenever we are able to host graduation, the plan most likely will be outdoors in the stadium which is an open air facility."

Johnson said internet connectivity continues to be a concern. "We know technology and internet access in Southwest Michigan is spotty at best for some. How we handle this will be determined within the next week to 10 days."

BIRTHDAYS

From page A1

not bother other residents.

As of Thursday, Lincoln Township has about a dozen of these parades scheduled for April.

After the parade is scheduled through a parent or guardian, the departments stage their entrance just around the block. Lately, it's involved two fire trucks and two squad cars. Soper said that's as large as the spectacle will get.

The vehicles flip their lights and sirens on about 50 to 75 yards from the house, where the entourage slows down briefly before continuing. Soper said it takes about five minutes.

"We don't want to encourage the violation of the governor's orders," Soper said. "It's something we can do because it doesn't take a lot of time."

How it started

It was toward the end of March when Lincoln Township ran its first lights and siren parade.

Soper said it all began when a citizen called in and requested the birthday parade.

"It was sort of an immediate thing," Soper said. "Within a day we decided to expand this more frequently. It's meant for some of the kids who were somewhat confused by the monotony of being cooped up in the house."

Once they did that, the police department posted a video on Facebook to broaden the impact.

"PD shared the video of it and it blew up," Fire Chief Brandon Chiarello said. "These are unprecedented times. If we can get out and brighten someones day by doing this, every little bit helps. I didn't think it would take off like this."

Soper said they are trying to stick to only Lincoln Township. He said the reason being is the fire department can't stray too far from its jurisdiction, in case of an emergency.

"It's priceless to see these kids look out the window to see all the lights and hear all the sirens," Soper said. "It's also nice seeing the enjoyment from the parent."

Chiarello said neighbors typically stand in their front yards for the parades.

"We drive by slow and abide by social distancing," he said. "The one we did Wednesday, just about every resident was standing outside or on their porch, waving to us and cheering us on. It really was like a parade."

Over the weekend, Chiarello said he heard about several other departments in the U.S. doing it. In Southwest Michigan, other municipalities also conducting such parades include Hartford and St. Joseph, plus the North Berrien Fire Department.

Lincoln Township residents wishing to schedule a lights and siren parade for a child can do so by messaging either the township fire or police department Facebook page.

Soper said they have one person handling the requests, but both departments are collaborating on scheduling.

"Rather than calling 911 or our non-emergency number, direct message the Facebook page," Soper said. "We'll message back and ask all the pertinent questions. If they don't have a Facebook account, they can try our non-emergency number."

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